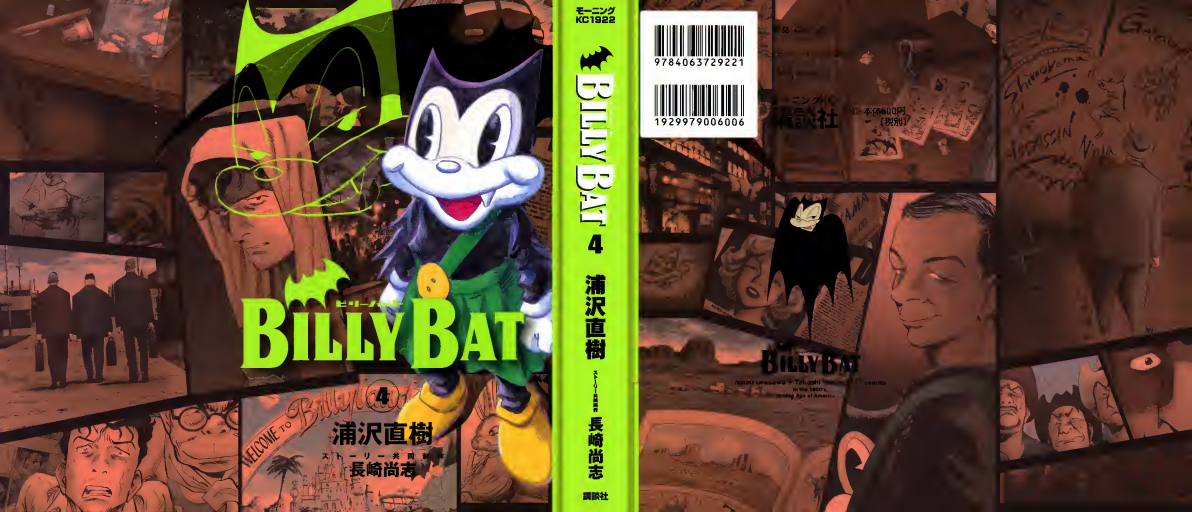

BILLY BAT
ビリーバット
4
浦沢直樹
ストーリー共同制作
長崎尚志
WELCOME TO Billy Bat
モーニング
KC1922
BILLY BAT 4
浦沢直樹
ストーリー共同制作
長崎尚志
講談社
9784063729221
1929979006006
講談社
本体600円
(税別)
BILLY BAT

モーニング
KC1922

BILLY BAT 4

浦沢直樹

ストーリー共同制作
長崎尚志

講談社

In the 1960's,
Golden Age
of
America.....

Naoki Urasawa + Takashi Nagasaki Presents

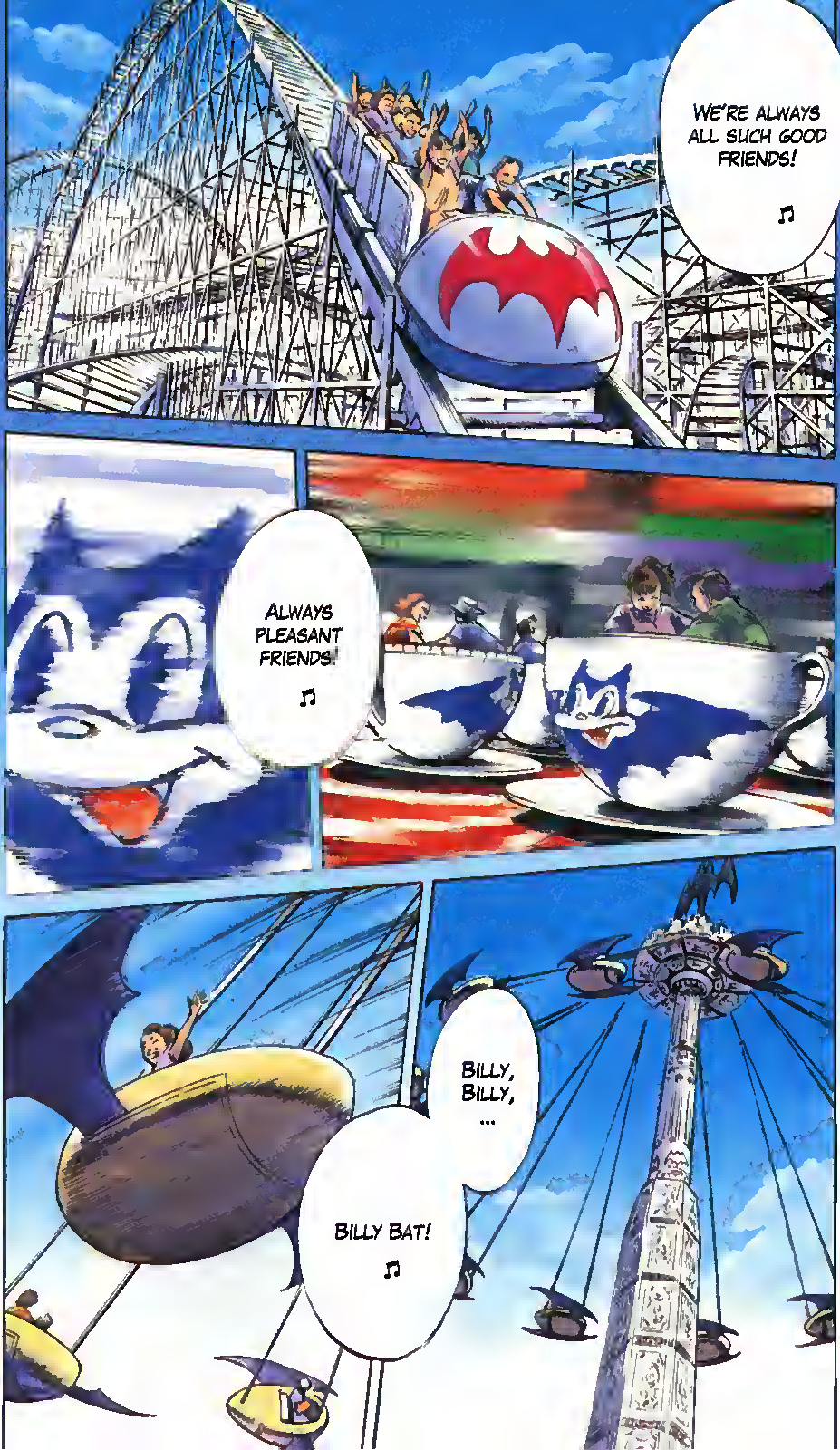
BILLY BAT
ビリーバット

4

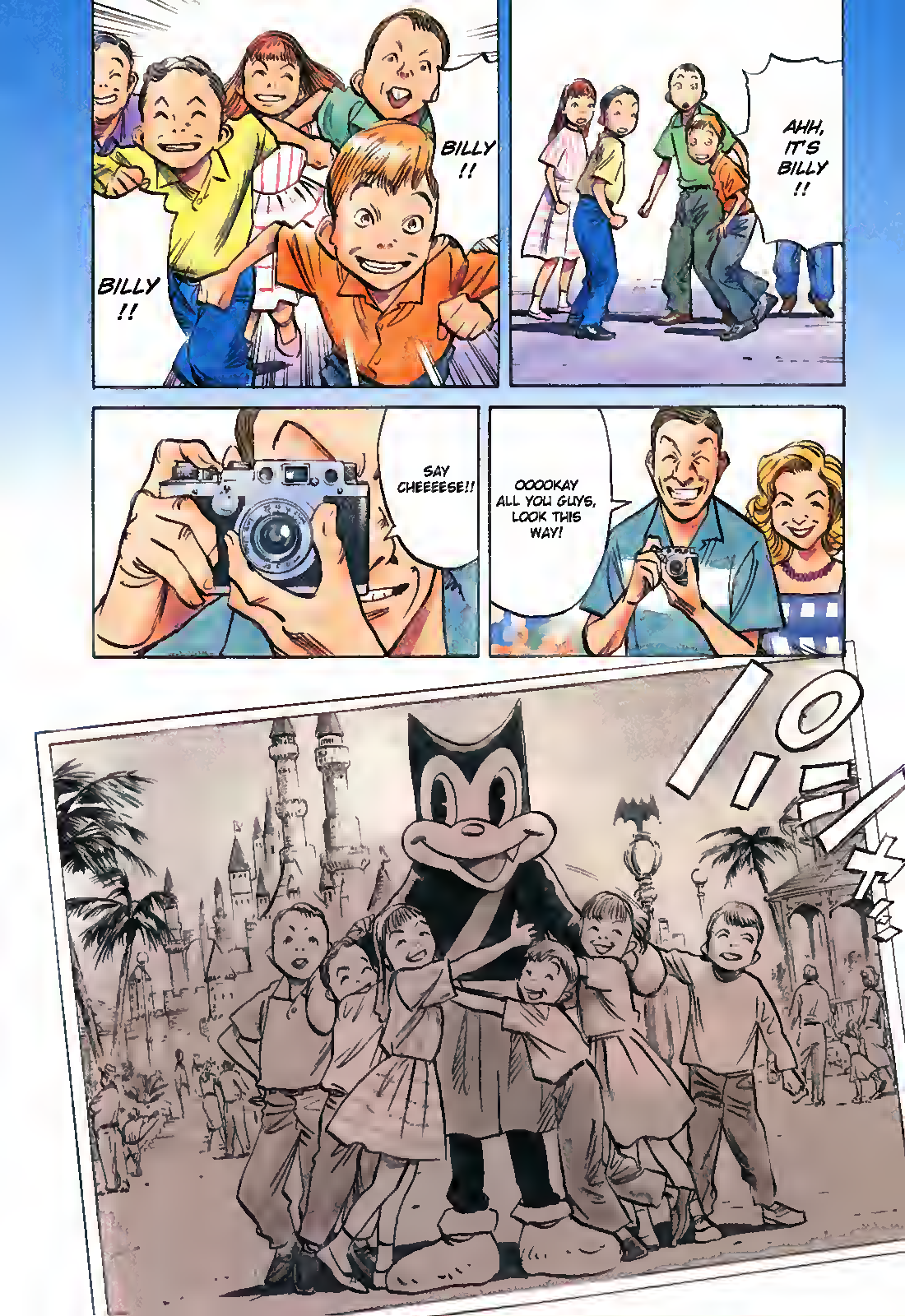
浦沢直樹

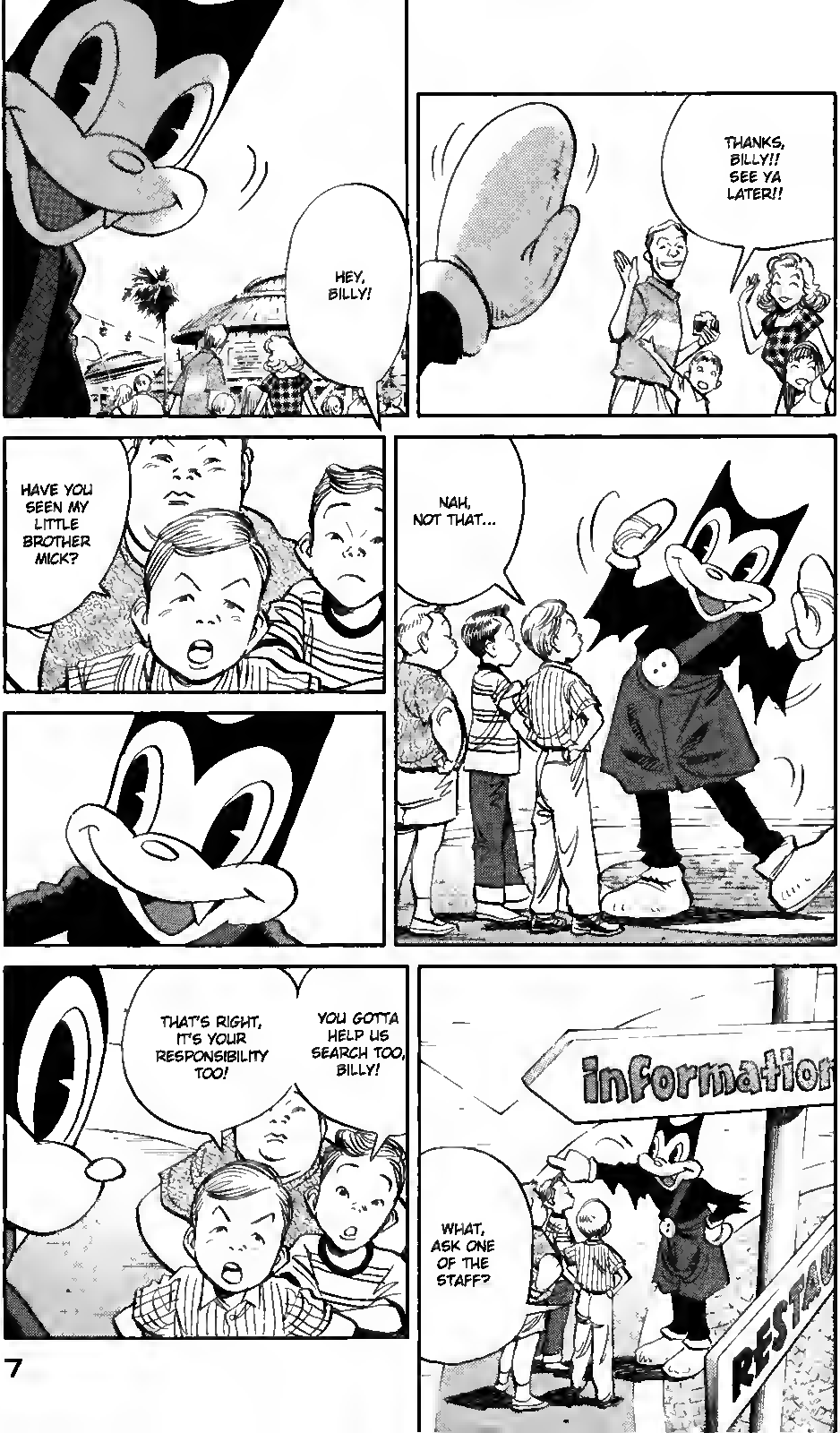
ストーリー共同制作

長崎尚志

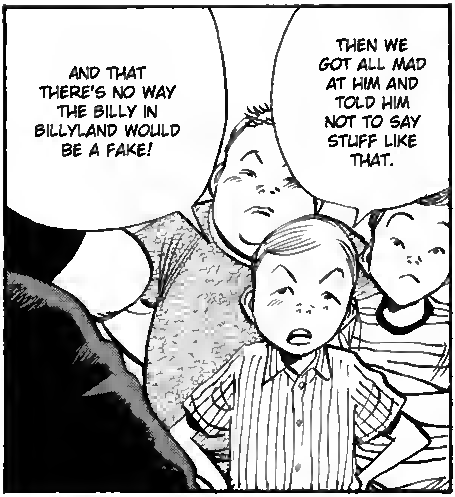

WE'RE ALWAYS ALL SUCH GOOD FRIENDS!
♫
ALWAYS PLEASANT FRIENDS!
♫
BILLY, BILLY, ...
BILLY BAT!
♫

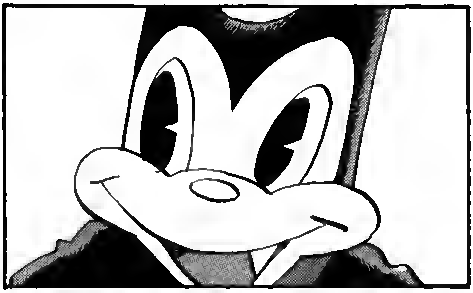
WELCOME TO Billyland
NOW COME ON EVERYONE, LET'S ALL PLAY WITH BILLY IN THE COUNTRY OF DREAMS, BILLYLAND!!

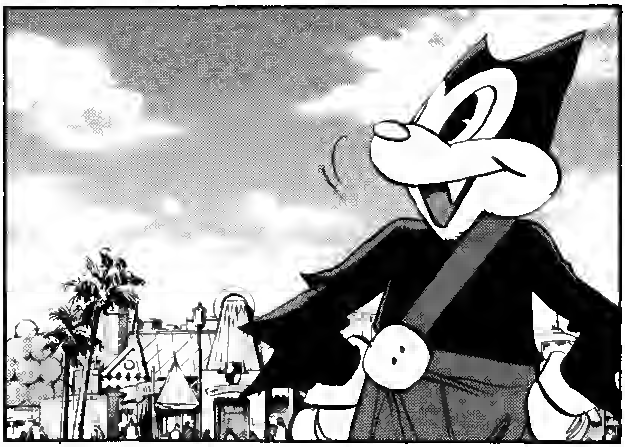

BILLY !!
BILLY !!
AHH, IT'S BILLY !!
SAY CHEEEEESE!!
OOOOKAY ALL YOU GUYS, LOOK THIS WAY!
パシャ

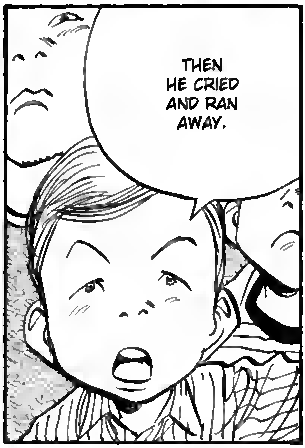

HEY, BILLY!
THANKS, BILLY!! SEE YA LATER!!
HAVE YOU SEEN MY LITTLE BROTHER MICK?
NAH, NOT THAT...
THAT'S RIGHT, IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TOO!
YOU GOTTA HELP US SEARCH TOO, BILLY!
WHAT, ASK ONE OF THE STAFF?
information

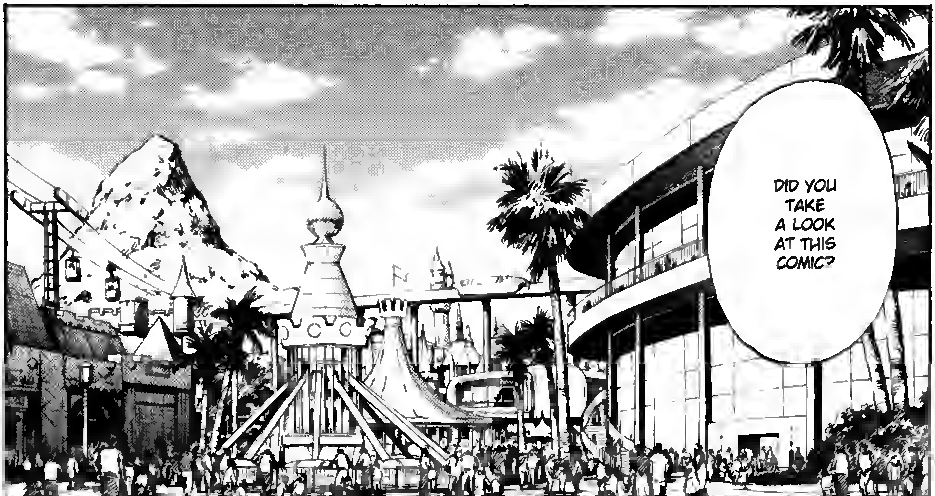
MICK'S BEEN SAYING THAT YOU'RE A FAKE.


THEN WE GOT ALL MAD AT HIM AND TOLD HIM NOT TO SAY STUFF LIKE THAT.
AND THAT THERE'S NO WAY THE BILLY IN BILLYLAND WOULD BE A FAKE!

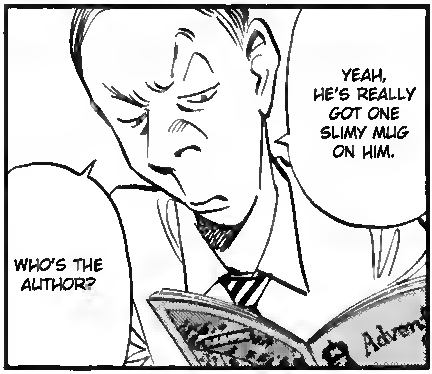


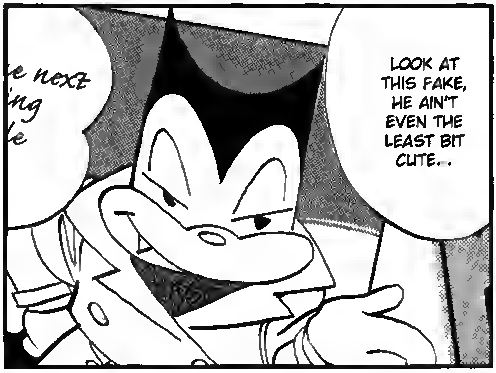


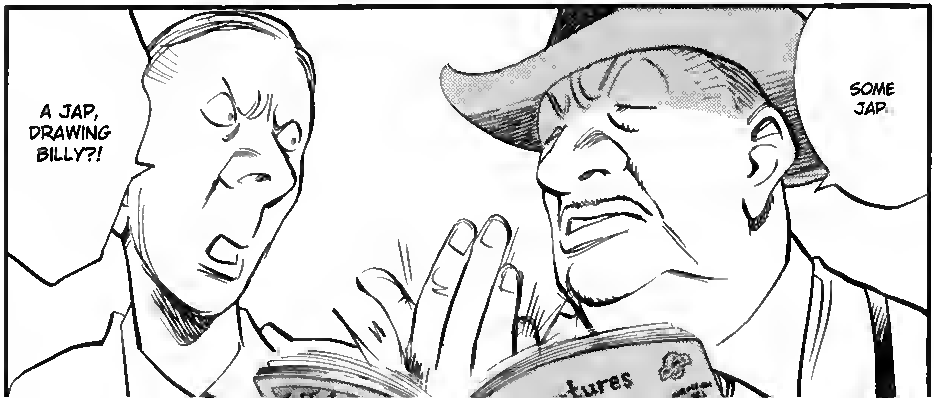

THEN HE CRIED AND RAN AWAY.

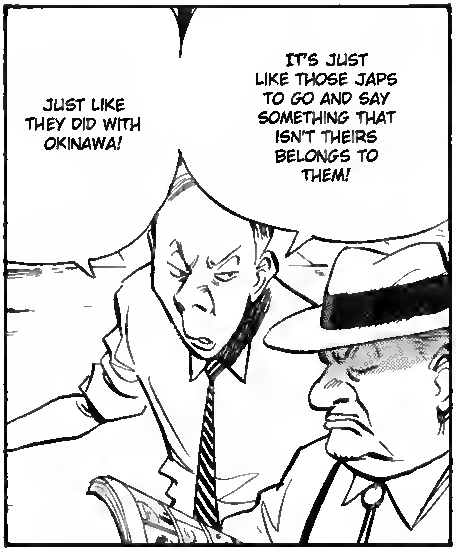

DID YOU TAKE A LOOK AT THIS COMIC?

BILLY BAT
KEVIN YAMAGATA
THE NEW LEADER
CLAP CLAP
CLAP
SOME NO-NAME PUBLISHER IN L.A. IS PUTTING THIS OUT WITHOUT PERMISSION.


WHO'S THE AUTHOR?
YEAH, HE'S REALLY GOT ONE SLIMY MUG ON HIM.


LOOK AT THIS FAKE, HE AIN'T EVEN THE LEAST BIT CUTE...


A JAP, DRAWING BILLY?!
SOME JAP.


IT'S JUST LIKE THOSE JAPS TO GO AND SAY SOMETHING THAT ISN'T THEIRS BELONGS TO THEM!
JUST LIKE THEY DID WITH OKINAWA!

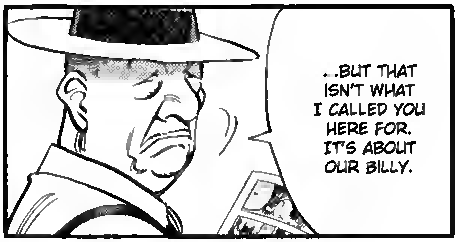
I'M TELLIN' YOU, IT'S BECAUSE OUR JUDICIAL AFFAIRS DON'T KNOW THEIR SHIT FROM SHINEOLA THAT STUFF LIKE THIS KEEPS COMIN' OUT.
YES SIRREE!

LOOK AT THIS, THEY EVEN GOT SOME SEXY MONROE-ISH THING IN HERE
WHAT, ARE THEY GONNA HAVE HER ASSASSINATED BY SOME SECRET ORGANIZATION OR SOME-THING?

IT DON'T MATTER, THOUGH, IT'S NOT LIKE SOME PRESIDENTIAL MANGA LIKE THIS IS GONNA SELL ANYWAYS.
YEAH, YOU GOTTA POINT THERE.

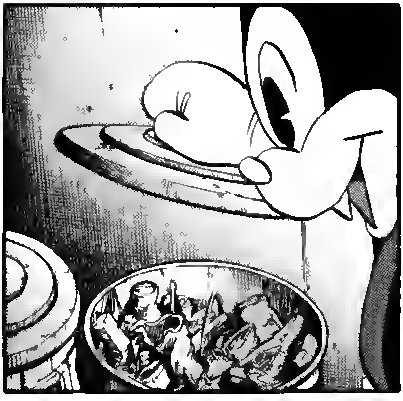
WHO'S GONNA READ A COMIC THAT ISN'T FOR KIDS?
YEAH, I'M SURE THIS PUBLISHER'LL DISAPPEAR OUT OF OUR SIGHT BEFORE WE EVEN KNOW IT.

YOU KNOW, HIM. GO CALL BILLY BAT'S INNARDS OVER HERE.

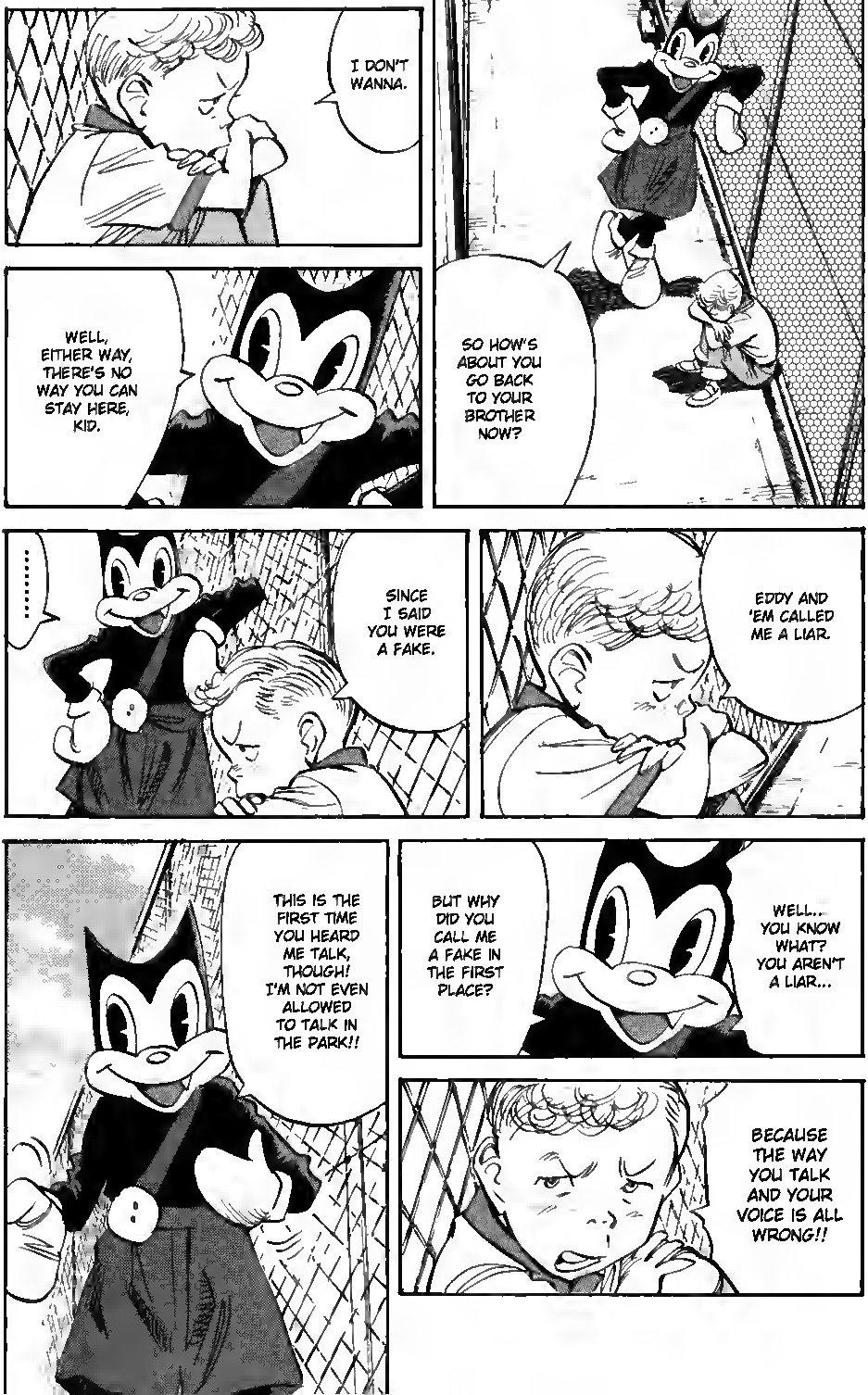

..BUT THAT ISN'T WHAT I CALLED YOU HERE FOR. IT'S ABOUT OUR BILLY.

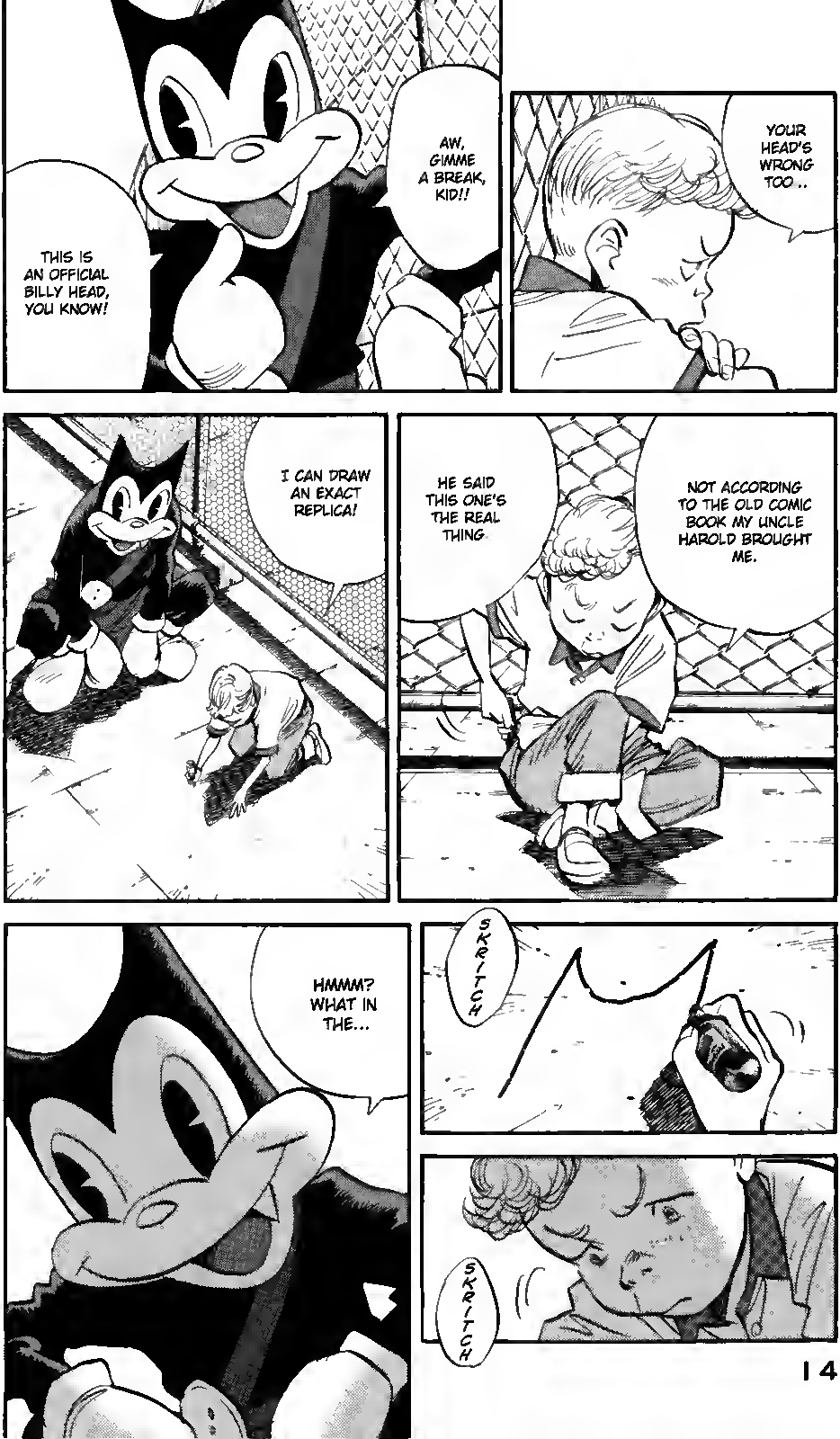
HUH?

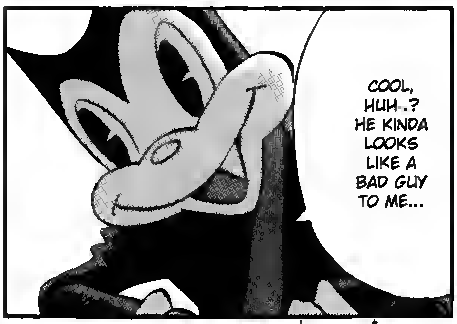
NO ENTRY

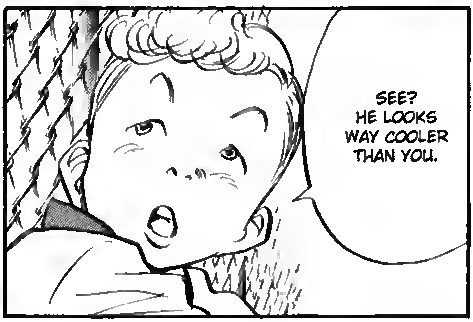


COME AND PULL ME OUTTA HERE. I GOT STUCK!
ARE YOU MICK?
HEY!!
GASHA
GUHAHH!!

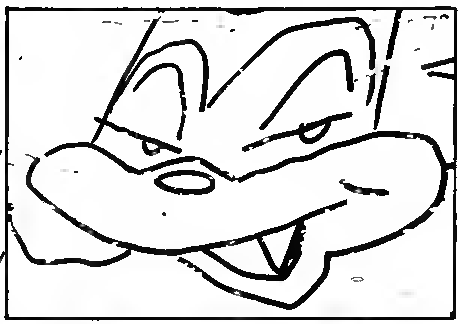

I DON'T WANNA.
SO HOW'S ABOUT YOU GO BACK TO YOUR BROTHER NOW?
WELL, EITHER WAY, THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN STAY HERE, KID.
EDDY AND 'EM CALLED ME A LIAR.
SINCE I SAID YOU WERE A FAKE.
.....
WELL... YOU KNOW WHAT? YOU AREN'T A LIAR...
BUT WHY DID YOU CALL ME A FAKE IN THE FIRST PLACE?
BECAUSE THE WAY YOU TALK AND YOUR VOICE IS ALL WRONG!!
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME YOU HEARD ME TALK, THOUGH! I'M NOT EVEN ALLOWED TO TALK IN THE PARK!!

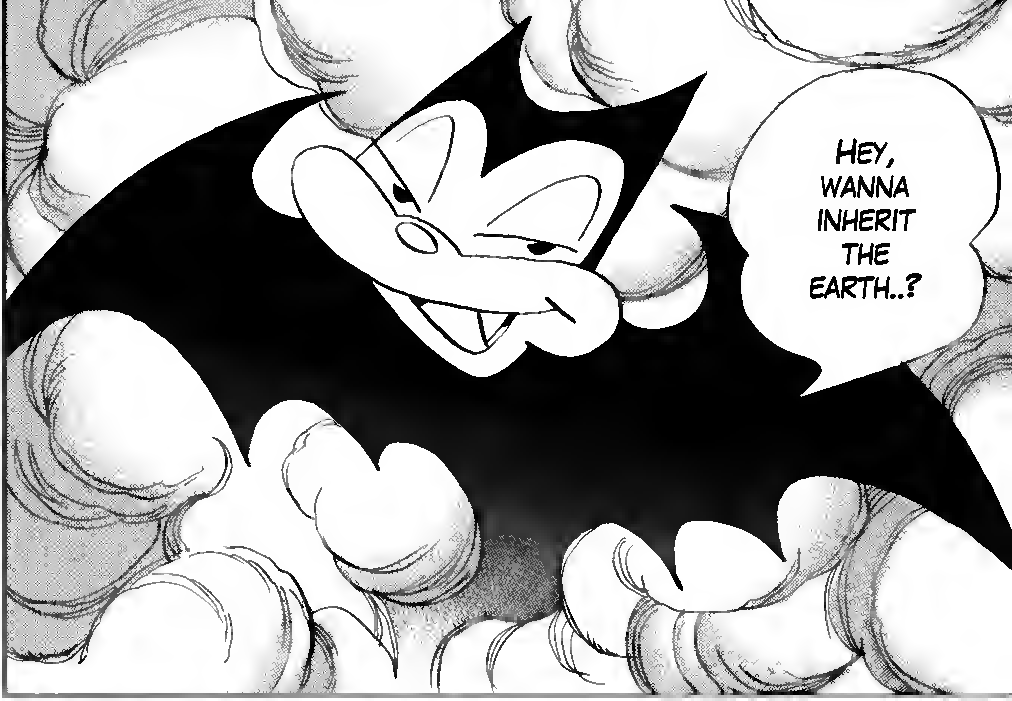

THIS IS AN OFFICIAL BILLY HEAD, YOU KNOW!
AW, GIMME A BREAK, KID!!
YOUR HEAD'S WRONG TOO..
I CAN DRAW AN EXACT REPLICA!
HE SAID THIS ONE'S THE REAL THING.
NOT ACCORDING TO THE OLD COMIC BOOK MY UNCLE HAROLD BROUGHT ME.
HMMM? WHAT IN THE...
SKRITCH
SKRITCH


COOL, HUH..? HE KINDA LOOKS LIKE A BAD GUY TO ME...

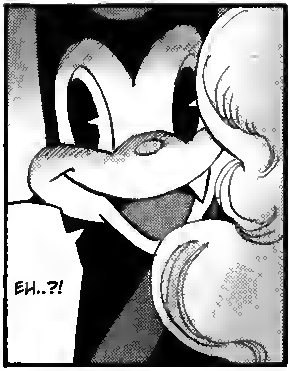

SEE? HE LOOKS WAY COOLER THAN YOU.

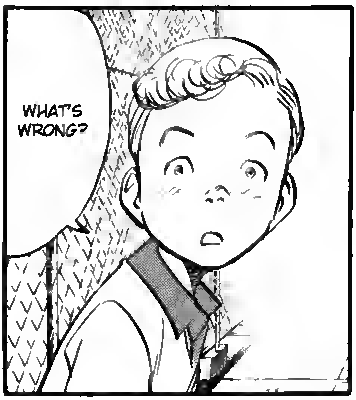
WAHH!!




HEY, WANNA INHERIT THE EARTH..?

WANNA BECOME THIS COUNTRY'S HERO?
AH... SORRY, WRONG TIME PERIOD. LET ME TRY AGAIN.

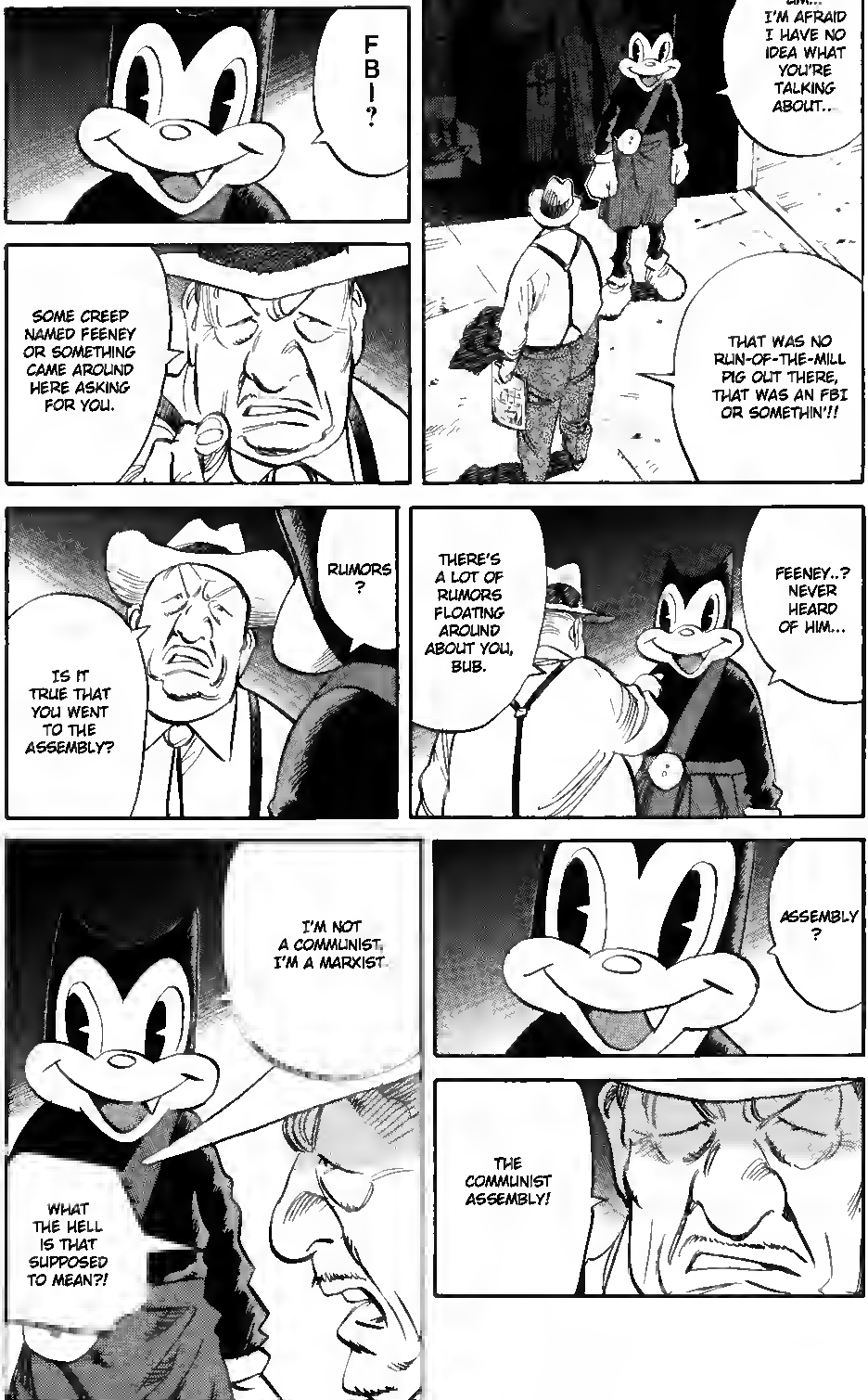

EH..?!

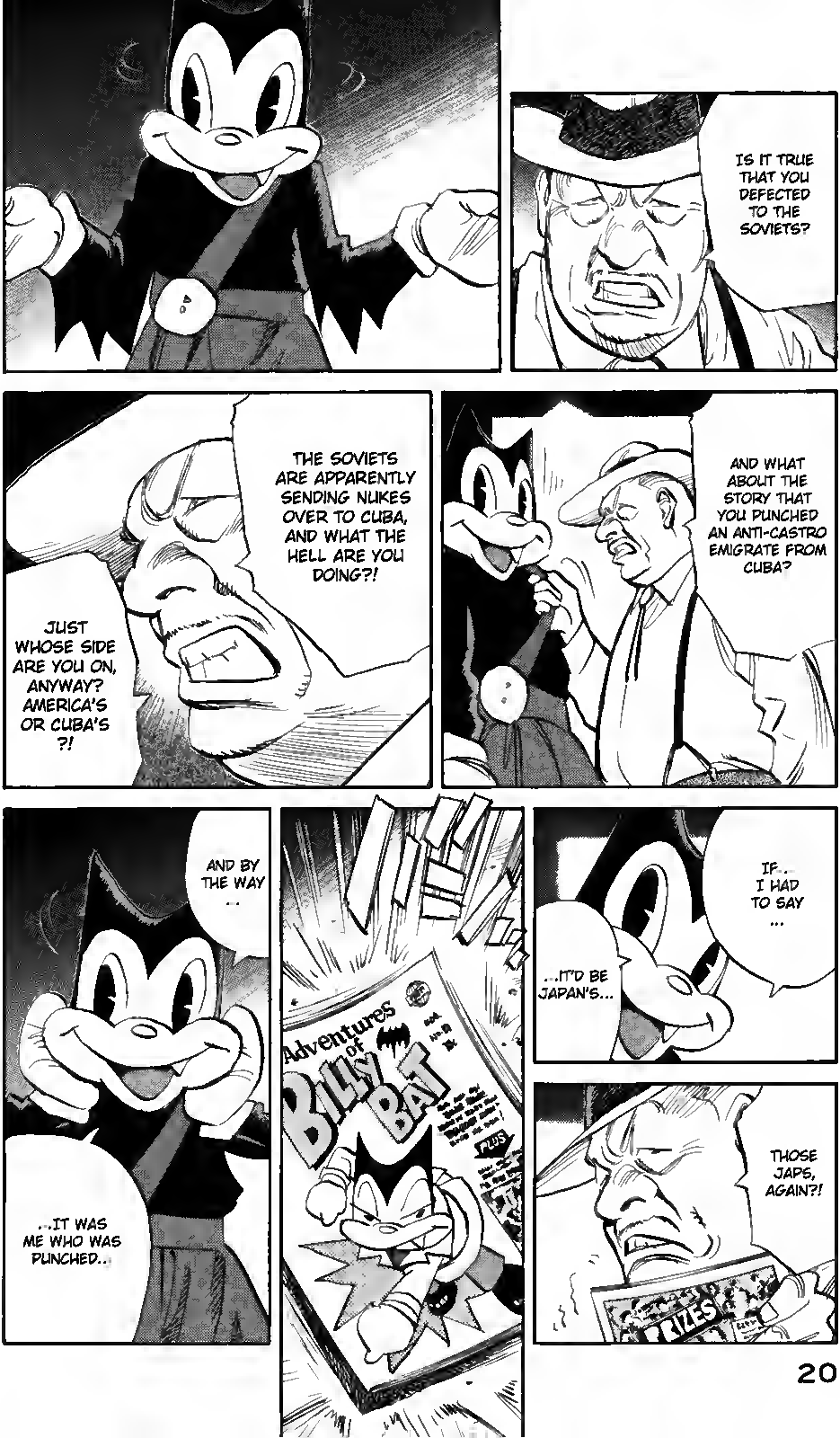

WHAT'S WRONG?

U... UWAA-AAAAH-HHH!!

OH, SO THIS IS WHERE YOU'VE BEEN.
EH..?
HAA
HAA
HAA
BOSS IS CALLIN'.
I SAW SOME TRASH AROUND THE NORTHERN ENTRANCE SHOPS!!
ON IT, SIR!!

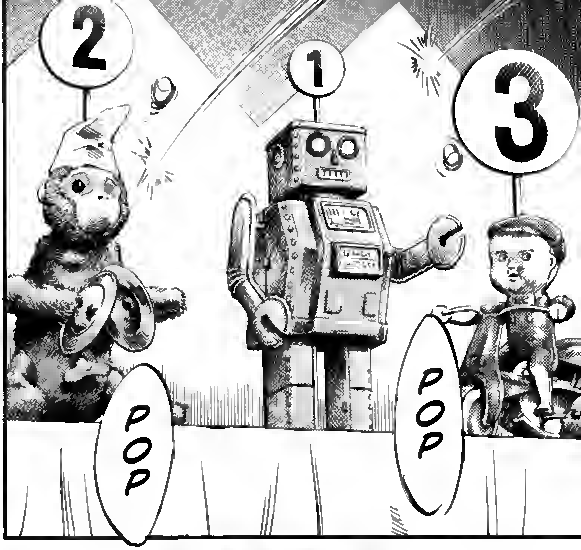
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL THAT...
YOU RANG, BOSS?
BILLYLAND IS A COUNTRY OF DREAMS AND ADVENTURE!!
WORLDLY TRASH BEING LEFT ON THE GROUND IS A TOTAL KILLJOY!!
WELL, HOW MAY I BE OF SERVICE?
YEAH, I DID
DON'T PLAY DUMB WITH ME WHAT'D YOU DO?
HUH?
WHAT'D YOU DO?

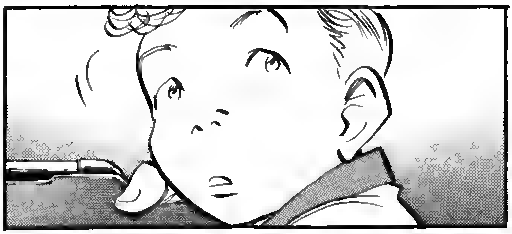

UM... I'M AFRAID I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT..
THAT WAS NO RUN-OF-THE-MILL PIG OUT THERE, THAT WAS AN FBI OR SOMETHIN'!!
FBI?
SOME CREEP NAMED FEENEY OR SOMETHING CAME AROUND HERE ASKING FOR YOU.
FEENEY..? NEVER HEARD OF HIM...
THERE'S A LOT OF RUMORS FLOATING AROUND ABOUT YOU, BUB.
RUMORS ?
IS IT TRUE THAT YOU WENT TO THE ASSEMBLY?
ASSEMBLY ?
THE COMMUNIST ASSEMBLY!
I'M NOT A COMMUNIST, I'M A MARXIST.
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!

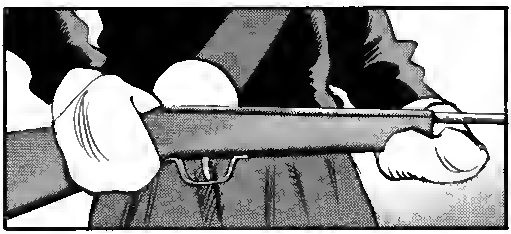

IS IT TRUE THAT YOU DEFECTED TO THE SOVIETS?
THE SOVIETS ARE APPARENTLY SENDING NUKES OVER TO CUBA, AND WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
JUST WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON, ANYWAY? AMERICA'S OR CUBA'S ?!
AND WHAT ABOUT THE STORY THAT YOU PUNCHED AN ANTI-CASTRO EMIGRATE FROM CUBA?
AND BY THE WAY ..
..IT WAS ME WHO WAS PUNCHED..
Adventures of BILLY BAT
JAPS
IF.. I HAD TO SAY ...
...IT'D BE JAPAN'S...
THOSE JAPS, AGAIN?!

DON'T TAKE THAT OFF WITHOUT GOOD REASON.
ESPECIALLY NOT IN FRONT OF THE CUSTOMERS.
LOOK...
IF A CUSTOMER EVER SEES THAT FACE, YOU'RE FIRED... GOT IT?
POP
POP

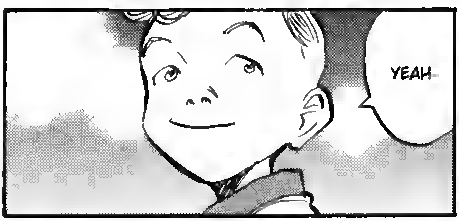
I CAN'T HIT A DARN THING!
AW, SHUCKS.

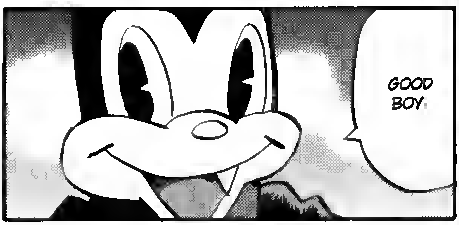

2
1
3
POP
POP

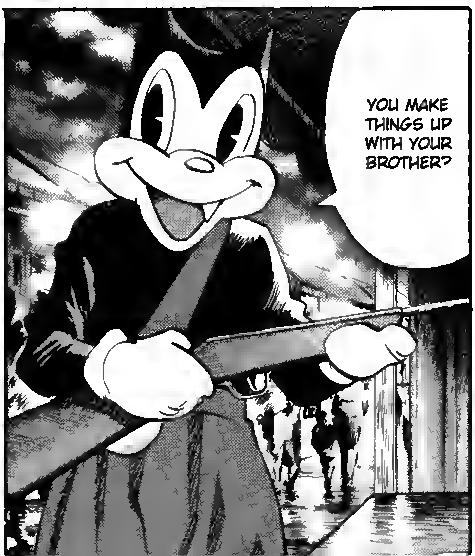


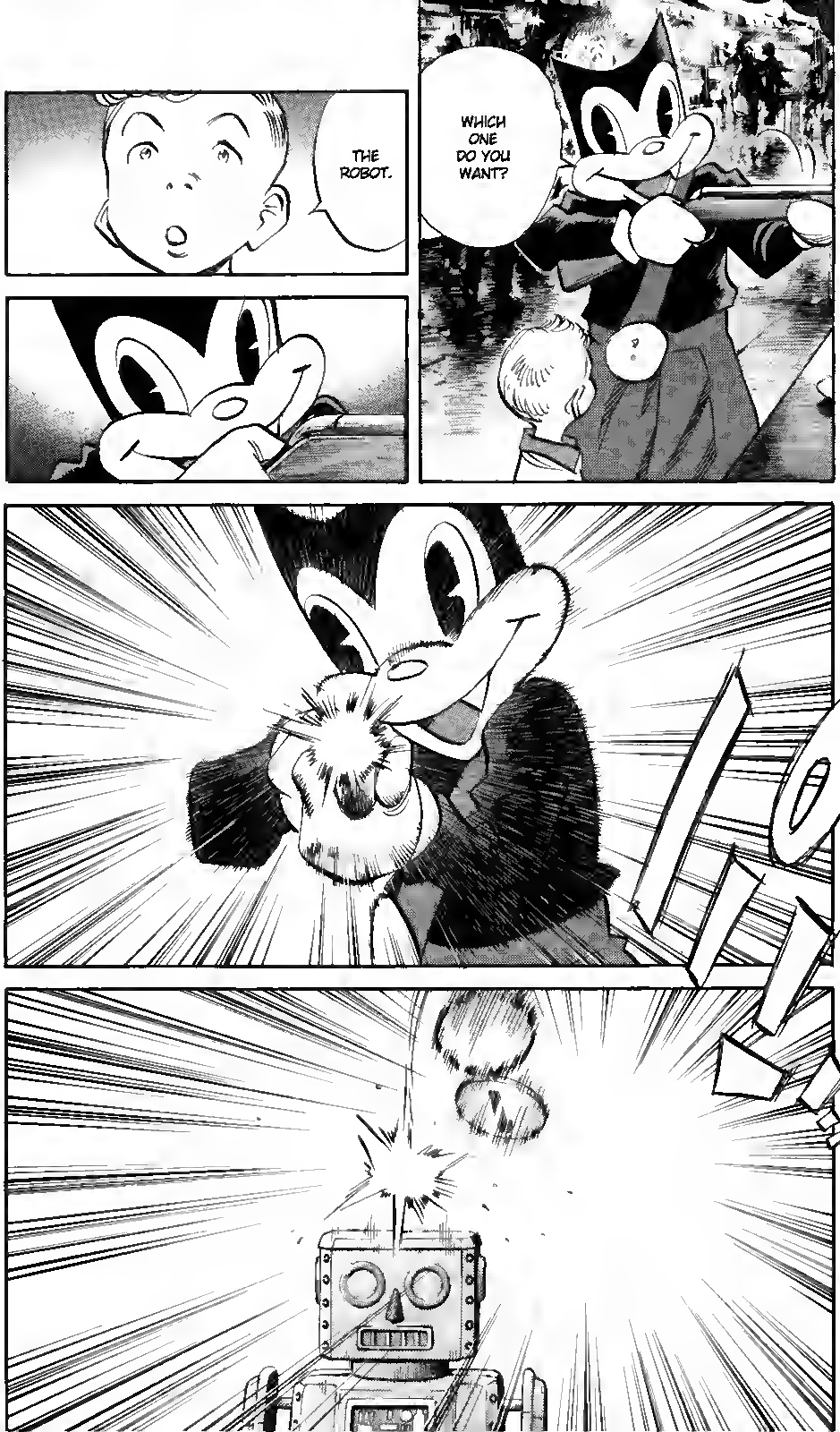


JUST ONE MORE...
GIVE IT UP, MICK!

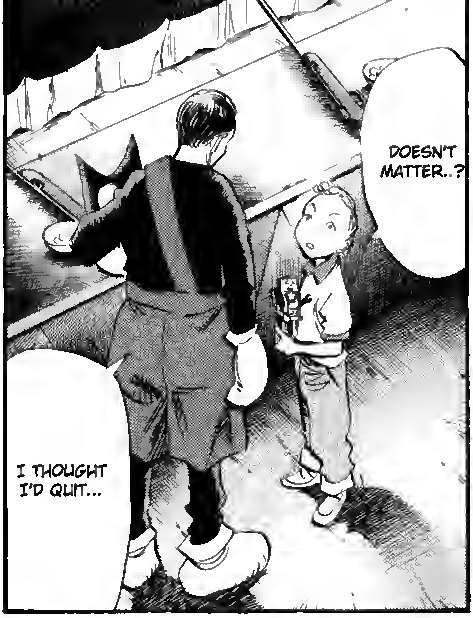

YEAH.

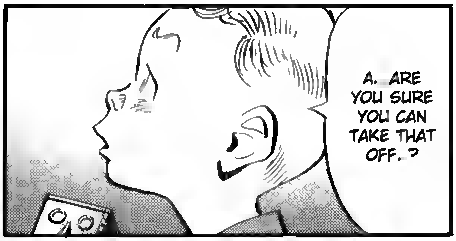

GOOD BOY.

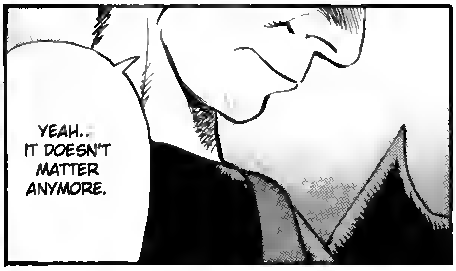

YOU MAKE THINGS UP WITH YOUR BROTHER?

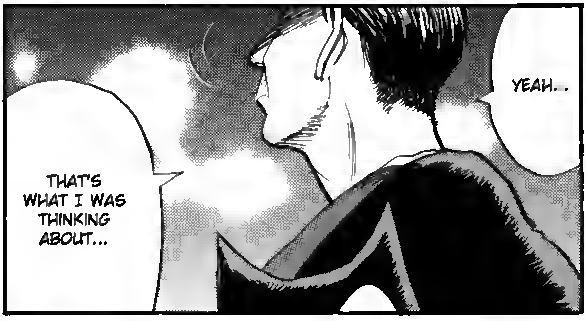

WHICH ONE DO YOU WANT?
THE ROBOT.

HERE'S YOUR PRIZE!!
HOLY COW!!
THANKS, BILLY!!
BUT...
EH..
BILLY, HUH.?
THOUGHT I WAS A FAKE?

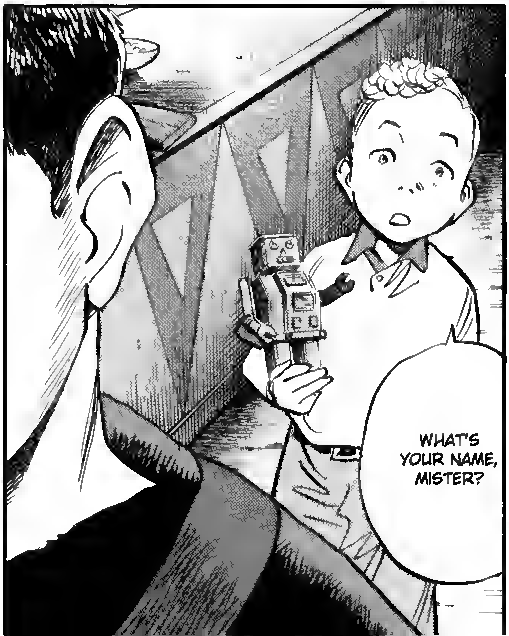

I THOUGHT I'D QUIT...
DOESN'T MATTER..?


A. ARE YOU SURE YOU CAN TAKE THAT OFF. ?

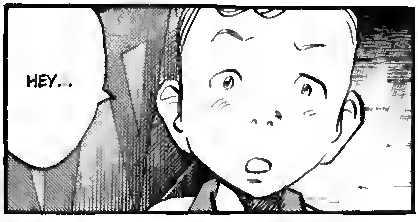

YEAH.. IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE.


THAT'S WHAT I WAS THINKING ABOUT...
YEAH..

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO AFTER YOU QUIT..?


WHAT'S YOUR NAME, MISTER?

MAYBE HEAD TO DALLAS...


HEY...

LEE...
LEE HARVEY...
...OSWALD.

AH...
DOBRE
UTRA.

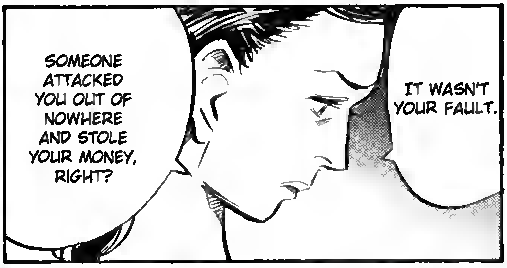
DOBRE
UTRA!

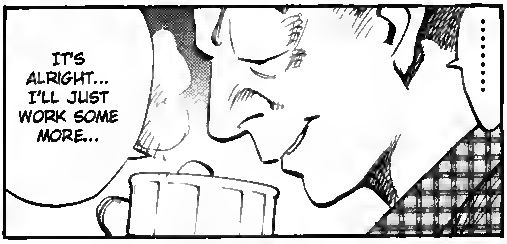
NAH... JUST TEA IS FINE.
NO BREAK-FAST?
BAD NEWS?
YOU MAY NOT BE ABLE TO READ ENGLISH, BUT YOU CAN RECOGNIZE THIS PHOTO, CAN'T YOU?

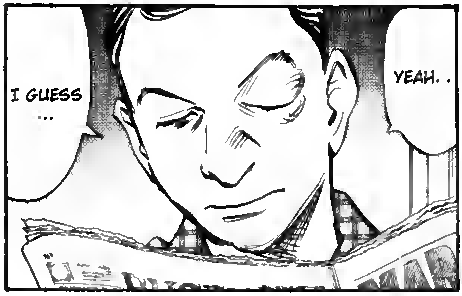
CHAPTER 29 LEE'S INNARDS

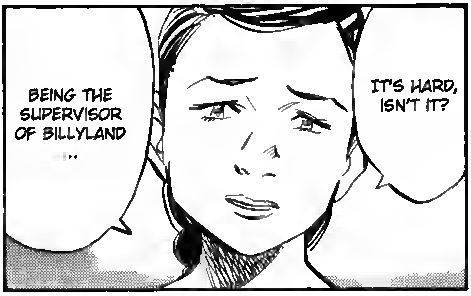
WHO KNOWS...
MARILY
OH MY... WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED ..?
THIS COUNTRY'S KIND OF SCARY.
WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF?
DEAD
IT WAS MY FAULT FOR SAUNTERING AROUND TOWN ON PAYDAY
EVEN YOU'VE BEEN ATTACKED!

WORK, WORK, WORK...

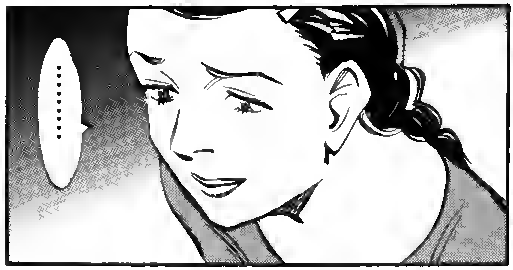

SOMEONE ATTACKED YOU OUT OF NOWHERE AND STOLE YOUR MONEY, RIGHT?
IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT.

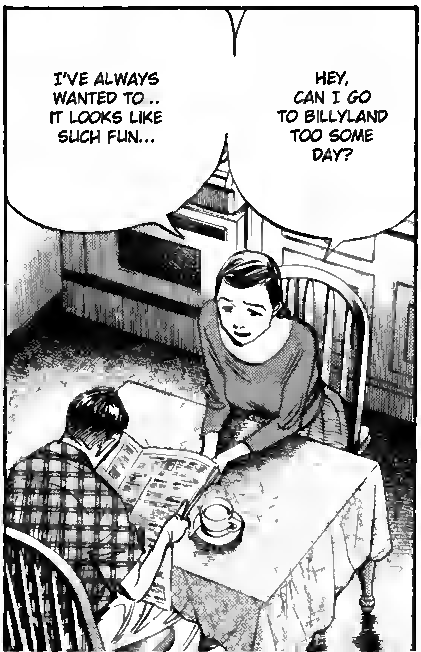

IT'S ALRIGHT... I'LL JUST WORK SOME MORE...
.....


I GUESS ...
YEAH. .


BEING THE SUPERVISOR OF BILLYLAND ...
IT'S HARD, ISN'T IT?

NOT FOR A WHILE, NOPE.


.....


I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO .. IT LOOKS LIKE SUCH FUN...
HEY, CAN I GO TO BILLYLAND TOO SOME DAY?

ANOTHER LETTER CAME FROM MR MOHRENSCHILDT.

HEY...

HE SAYS THERE ARE SOME GOOD POSITIONS OPEN OVER THERE.

YOU KNOW, FROM THE WHITE RUSSIAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY IN DALLAS...

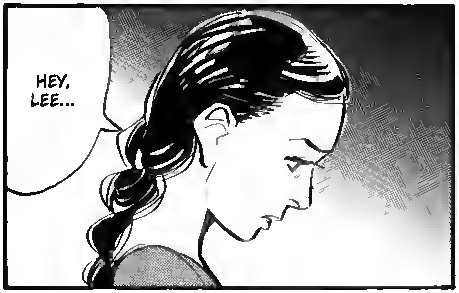
I'M SORRY...

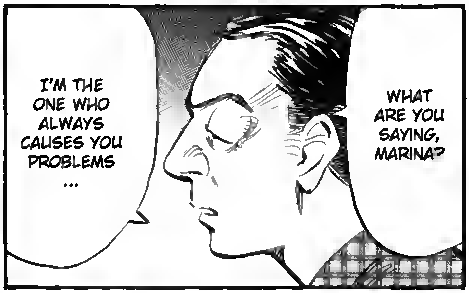
YEAH, YOU STILL CAN'T SPEAK ENGLISH VERY WELL, SO YOU CAN'T MAKE ANY FRIENDS...
HMMM ...

DALLAS ...

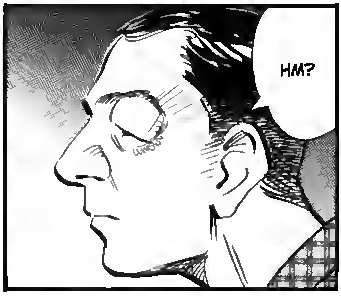
THERE ARE A LOT OF RUSSIANS OVER THERE, I THINK IT MIGHT BE SAFER.

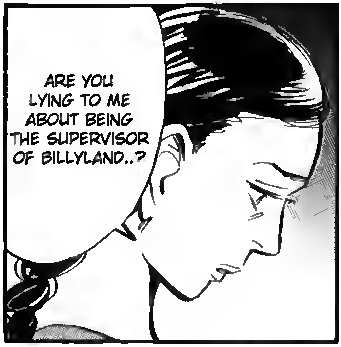
WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZ-ING?
BECAUSE, YOU FINALLY GOT A WONDERFUL JOB AS THE SUPERVISOR OF BILLYLAND...
...BUT I KEEP CAUSING YOU PROBLEMS ...

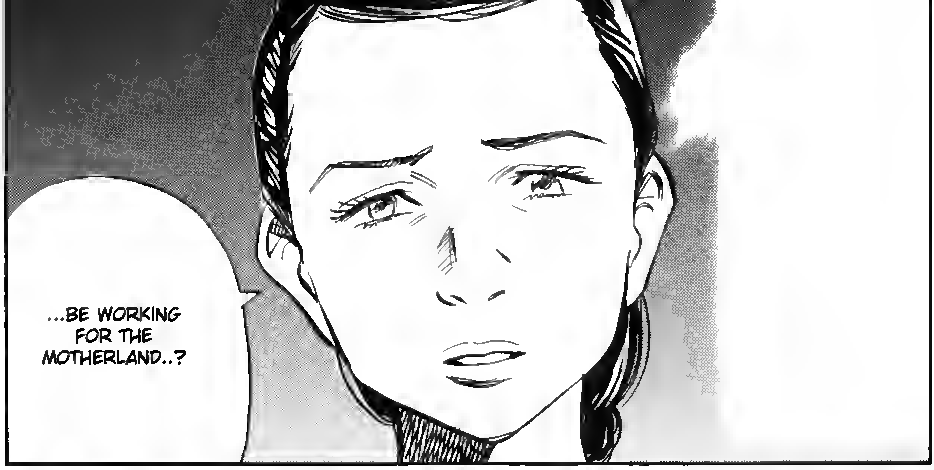

HEY, LEE...


WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, MARINA?
I'M THE ONE WHO ALWAYS CAUSES YOU PROBLEMS ...

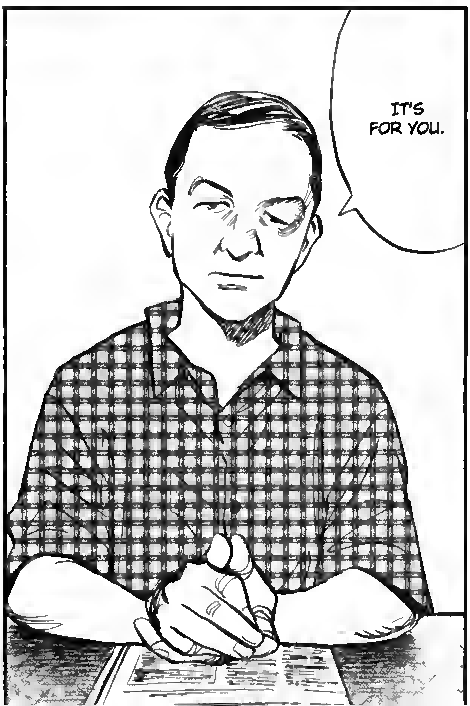
COULD YOU REALLY ACTUALLY...


HM?

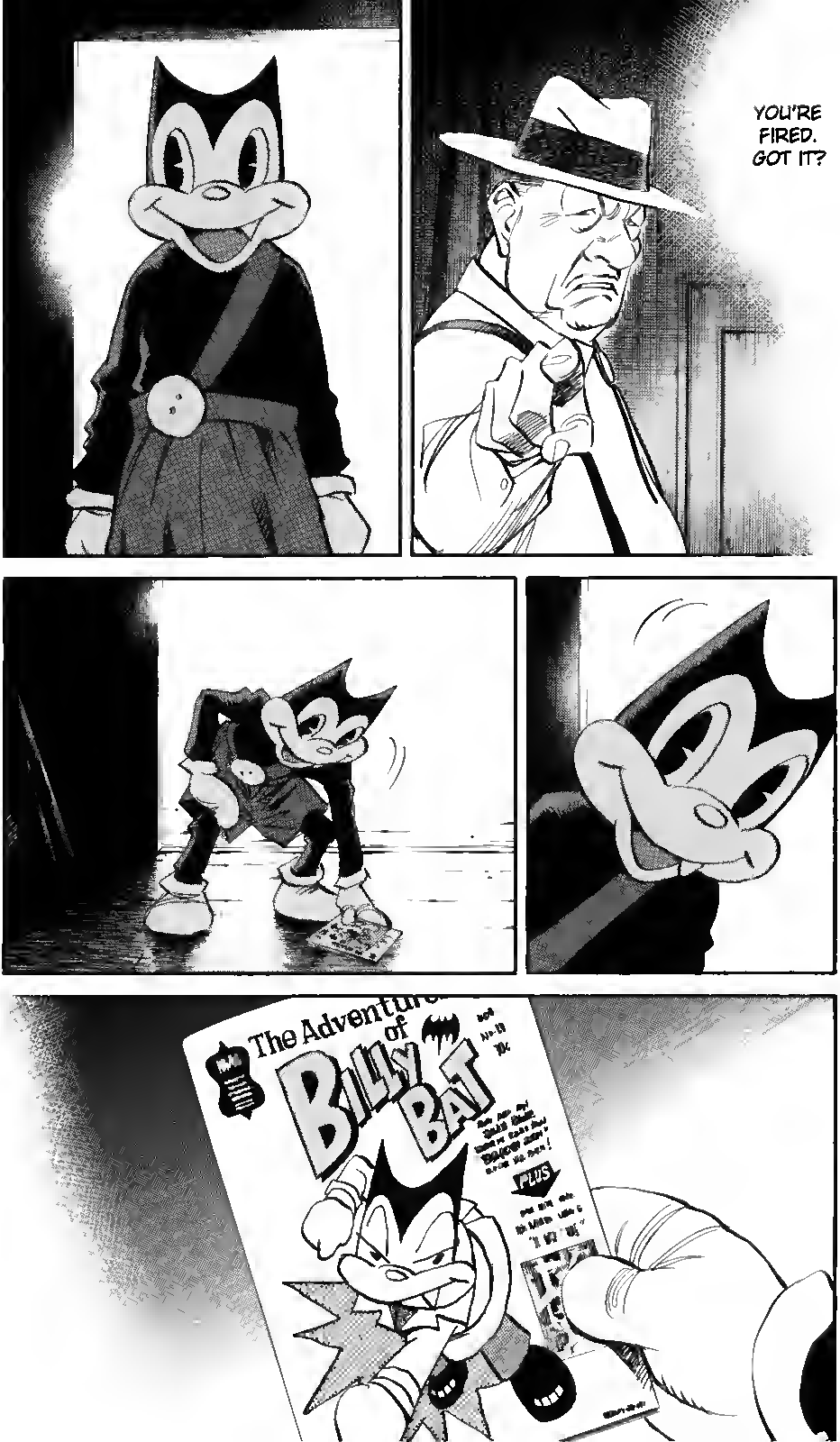

ARE YOU LYING TO ME ABOUT BEING THE SUPERVISOR OF BILLYLAND..?


...BE WORKING FOR THE MOTHERLAND..?

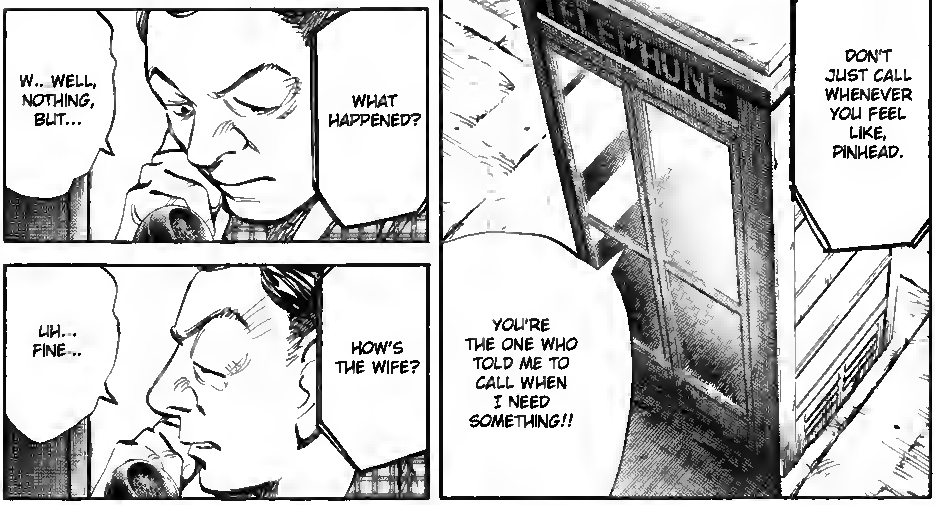
MARINA...

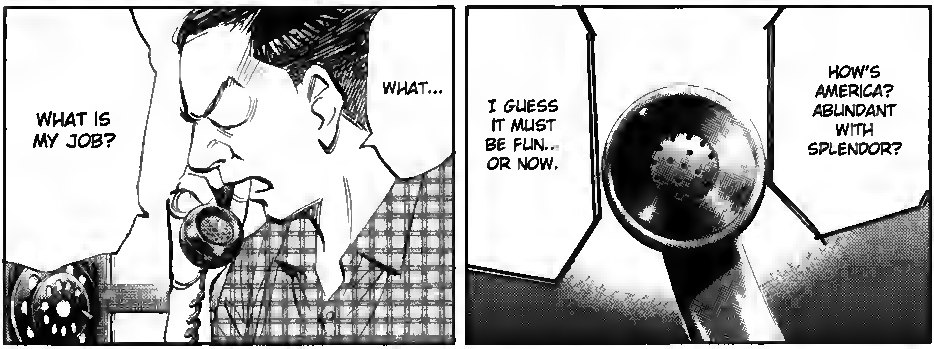

IT'S FOR YOU.

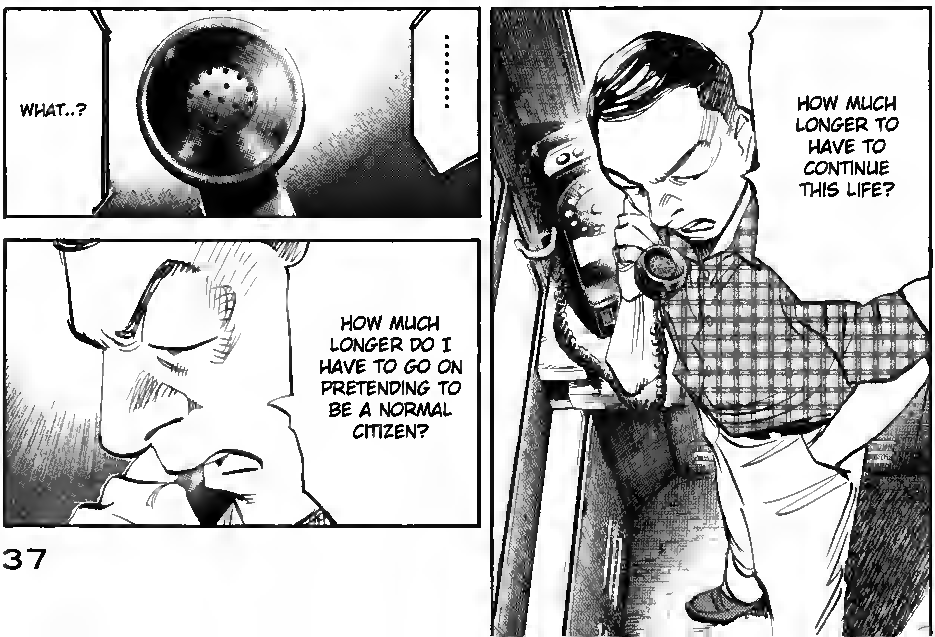
THE REASON I WORK ISN'T FOR YOUR HOMELAND.


YOU'RE FIRED. GOT IT?
The Adventures of
BILLY BAT
PLUS

The Adventures of BILLY BAT
No 10
10¢
PLUS
TIMES
BRRRRING
CLICK
BRRRRING
IT'S ME, LEE.
UH... HELLO?
TELEPHONE
TELEPHONE


W.. WELL, NOTHING, BUT...
WHAT HAPPENED?
UH... FINE...
HOW'S THE WIFE?
TELEPHONE
DON'T JUST CALL WHENEVER YOU FEEL LIKE, PINHEAD.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TOLD ME TO CALL WHEN I NEED SOMETHING!!


WHAT IS MY JOB?
WHAT...
I GUESS IT MUST BE FUN.. OR NOW.
HOW'S AMERICA? ABUNDANT WITH SPLENDOR?

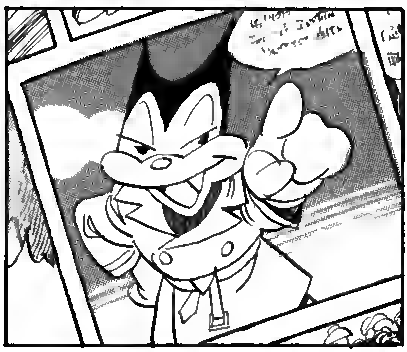

WHAT..?
.....
HOW MUCH LONGER DO I HAVE TO GO ON PRETENDING TO BE A NORMAL CITIZEN?
HOW MUCH LONGER TO HAVE TO CONTINUE THIS LIFE?

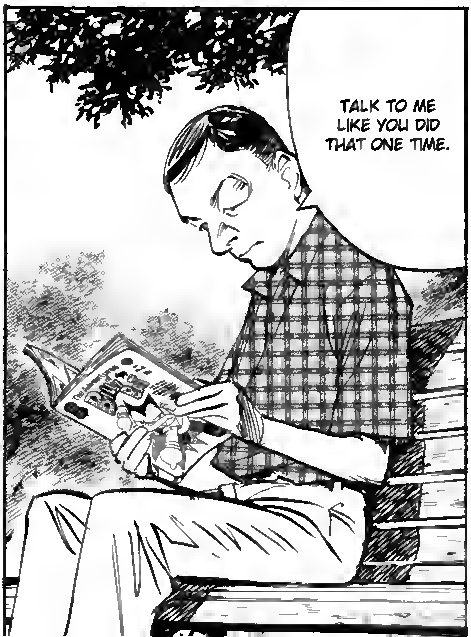
YOU AREN'T A NORMAL CITIZEN.
AM I GOING TO BECOME A NATIONAL HERO?
AM I...
CLANG
WHERE DID YOU HEAR...

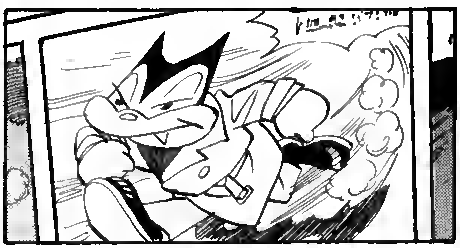
I..I'M SORRY...
WHAT DID GOD GIVE YOU EYES FOR?!
AHHHH!
ARE YOU HURT..?
IT'S BECAUSE THERE'S PEOPLE LIKE YOU THAT I CAN'T WALK DOWN THE STREET IN PEACE!!
HONE
TE
ドン!

The Adventures of
BILLY BAT

COME ON OUT, BAT.




TALK TO ME LIKE YOU DID THAT ONE TIME.



WANNA BECOME THIS COUNTRY'S HERO?
HOW CAN I BECOME A HERO?!
WHAT COUNTRY DO YOU MEAN BY THIS COUNTRY?

KEVIN YAMAGATA
NEW LEADER
KEVIN YAMAGATA...
BILLY BAT
KEVIN YAMAGATA
THE NEW LEADER
JAP-ANESE, HUH...
Adventures
YAMAGATA ...
JAPANESE ...

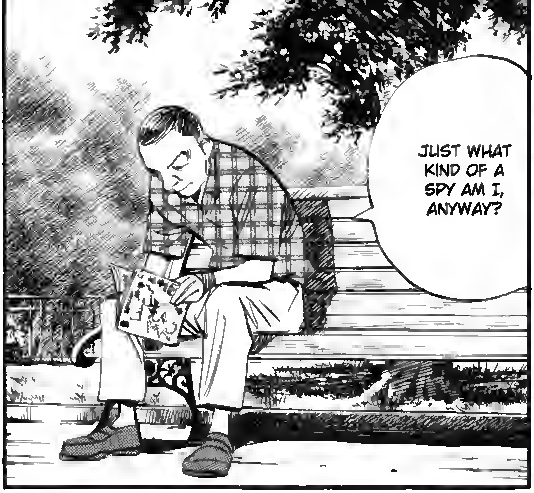
GINZA--

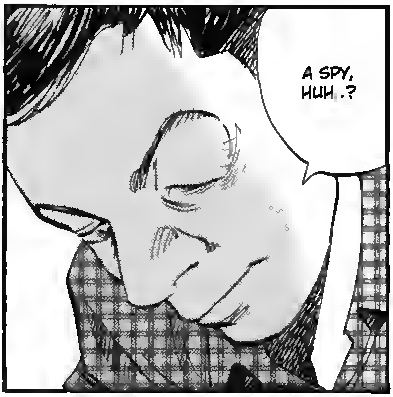
Queen

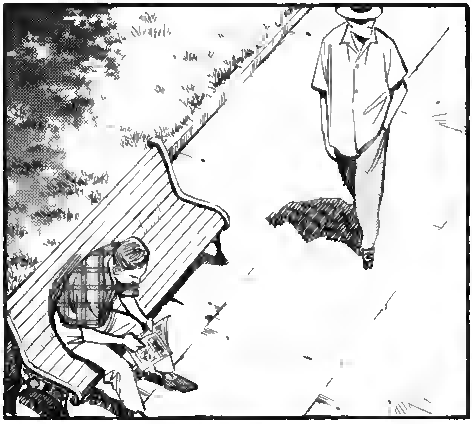
DEFECT TO THE UNION.
MR. OSWALD?
HUH?
DEFECT TO THE SOVIET UNION...
UH... YEAH...
WHAT, AND ASSASSINATE KRUSCHEV OR SOMETHING?
.....
THAT'S ALL..?
ENJOY..?
JUST ENJOY LIFE OVER THERE.
NO...
YEP.

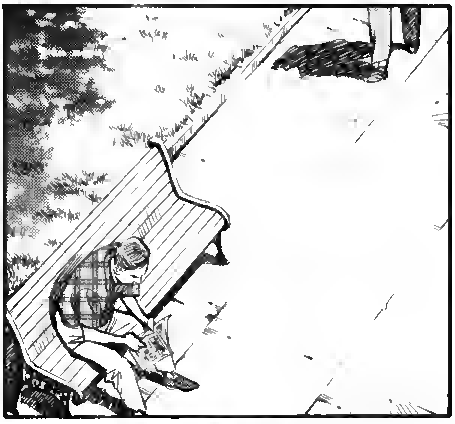
YOUR ORDERS WILL COME...
.. AFTER YOU RETURN HOME.
AND AT THAT TIME...
...YOU WILL BECOME A HERO.
BYE...

DAMN SPY!!
!!
AH... WAIT, YOU DAMN SPY!!
BAAAANG!
BAAAANG!!
UWAAAH!!
BAAAANG!! I KILLED THE SPY!!
BAAAANG, BAAAANG!!


JUST WHAT KIND OF A SPY AM I, ANYWAY?

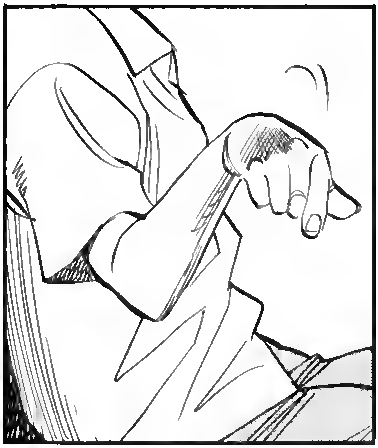

A SPY, HUH..?



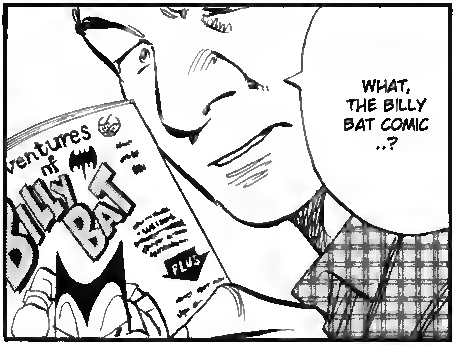


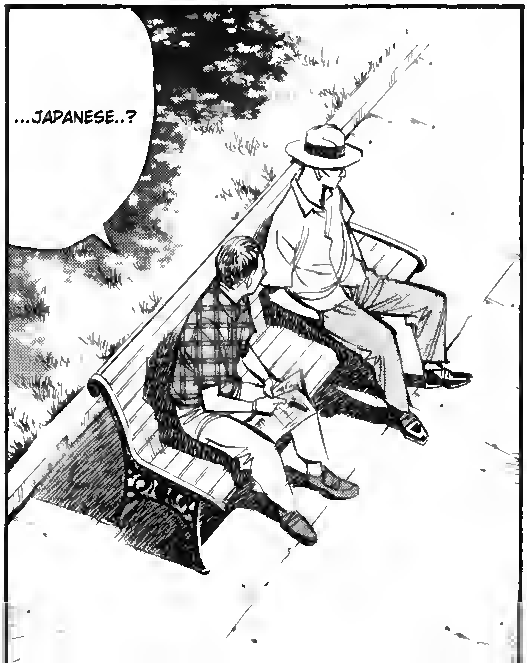
I'VE GOT A JOB FOR YOU.
MR. LEE HARVEY OSWALD..
DO YOU KNOW ME?

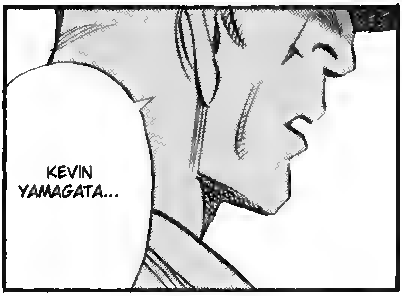
The Adventures of
BILLY BAT

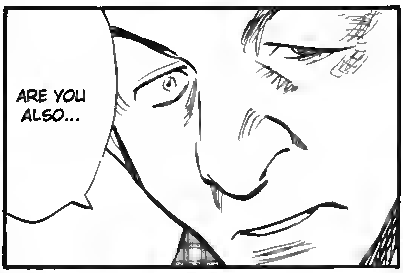


I KNOW THE GUY WHO DREW THAT...


WHAT, THE BILLY BAT COMIC ..?


...JAPANESE..?


KEVIN YAMAGATA...


ARE YOU ALSO...

YES...
AND I'VE SEEN YOU TWO OR THREE TIMES BEFORE.
...AT ATSUGI BASE AND GINZA.

BANG!
557 529
284 738
186
TUK TUK TUK
BANG
BANG
MY DREAM EVER SINCE I WAS A LITTLE BOY...
BANG
BANG

CHAPTER 30 THUS SPOKE OSWALD

I AM LEE HARVEY OSWALD, ...

BAAANG!

...BORN ON OCTOBER 18, 1939, DOWN IN NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

MY OLDER BROTHER WAS IN THE MARINES, ...

LEE HARVEY OSWALD AS A MARINE

...SO I JOINED THE SERVICE WHEN I WAS 17.

IN 1957, I WAS ASSIGNED TO THE NAVAL AIR FACILITY ATSUGI IN JAPAN, AS PART OF THE MARINE AIR CONTROL SQUADRON 1.

UNDER AN ORDER FROM MY SUPERIORS, I STARTED LEARNING RUSSIAN.

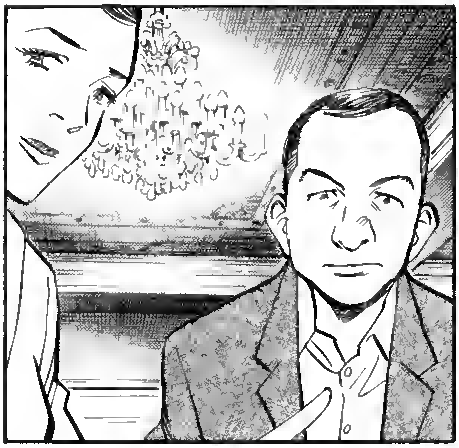
...SO PEOPLE EVEN STARTED CALLING ME "OSWALDVICH" AS A JOKE.
I HAD FREELY NAMED MYSELF AS A SYMPATHIZER OF THE SOVIET UNION, ...

WHERE DID I GET THE MONEY TO DO STUFF LIKE THAT, YOU ASK..?
I WENT TO THE CABARETS IN GINZA A LOT. MARINES WERE REALLY POPULAR THERE.

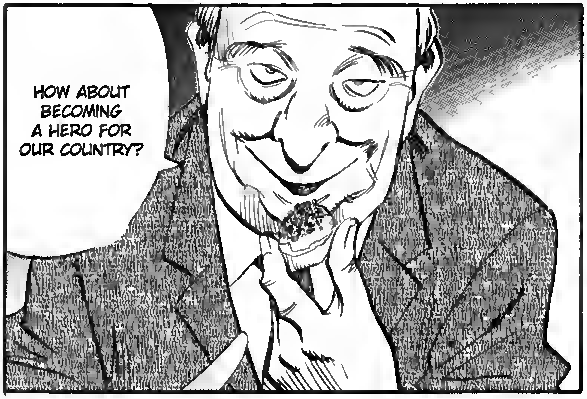
IN 1959, I DEFECTED TO THE SOVIET UNION.

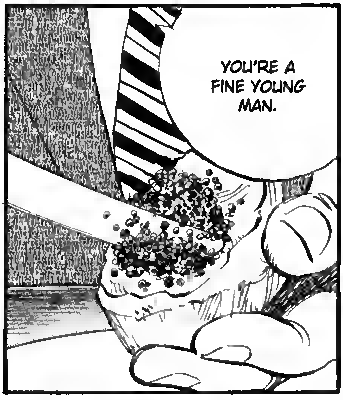
THAT'S A SECRET.

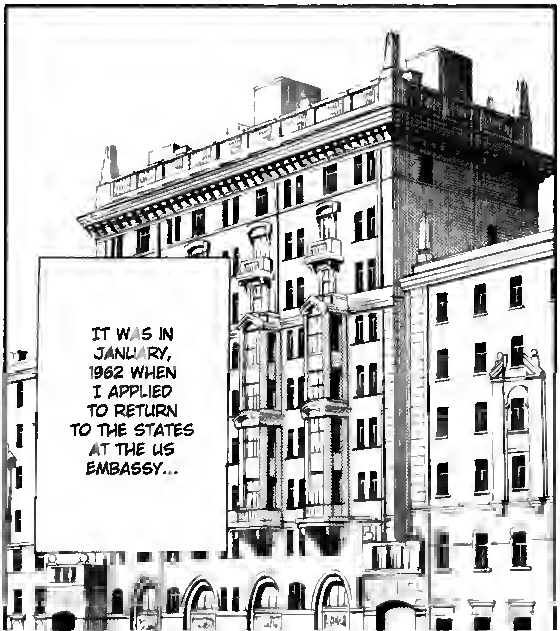
INCIDENTALLY, THE SOVIETS SUSPECTED ME TO BE A SPY.
...I ANNOUNCED THAT I NEVER PLANNED TO RETURN TO AMERICA.
IN RETURN FOR LEAKING CLASSIFIED INFORMATION DURING MY TIME IN ATSUGI, ..
IN ORDER TO PROVE MY FIDELITY, I EVEN ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.
...A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG WOMAN, TO WHOM I SOON PROPOSED MARRIAGE.
THAT'S WHERE I MET MARINA, ...
THERE, I WAS FINALLY ADMITTED TO LIVE IN MINSK.

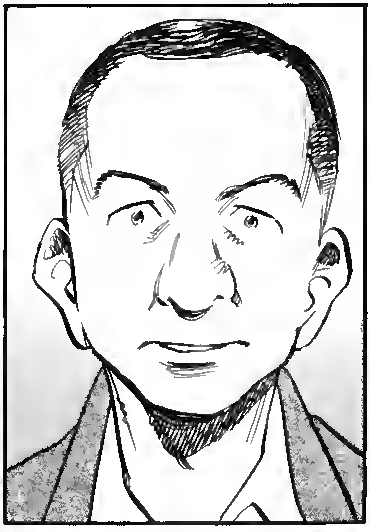


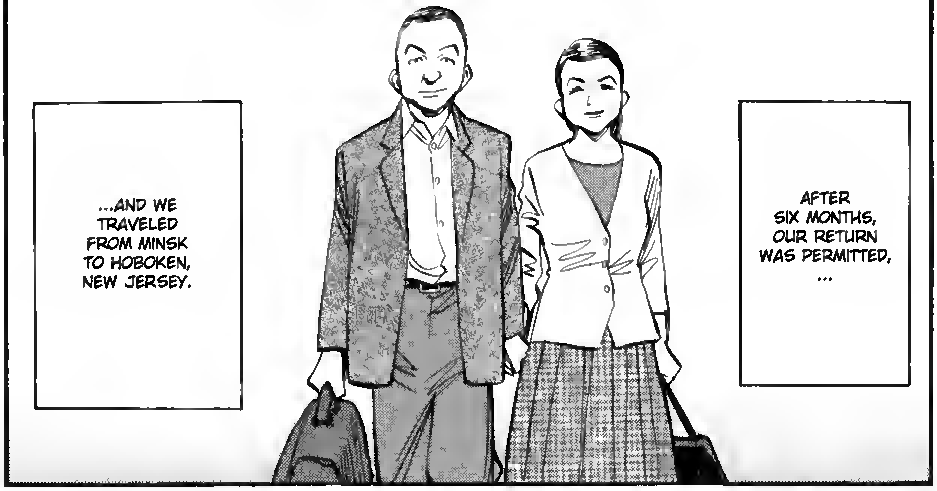
LISTEN CLOSELY, LEE.
MARINA'S UNCLE ILYA PRUSAKOV WAS A HIGH-RANKING MVD COLONEL...

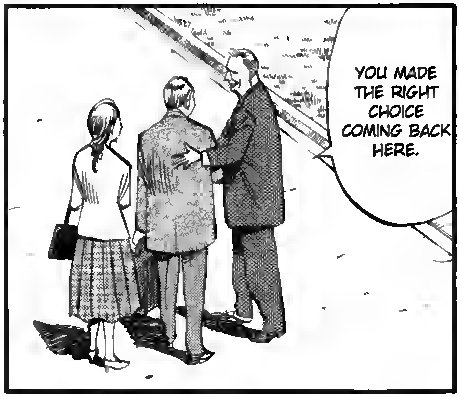

HOW ABOUT BECOMING A HERO FOR OUR COUNTRY?

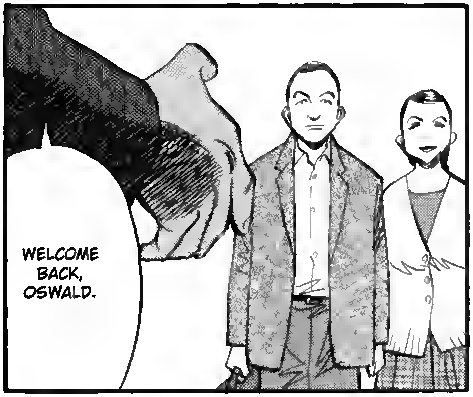

YOU'RE A FINE YOUNG MAN.

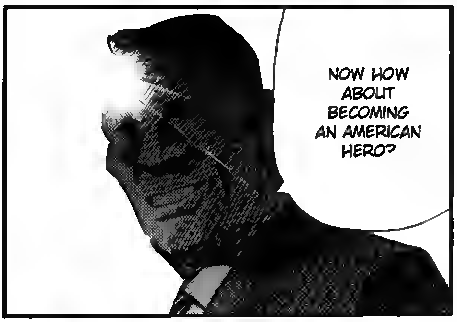

IT WAS IN JANUARY, 1962 WHEN I APPLIED TO RETURN TO THE STATES AT THE US EMBASSY...

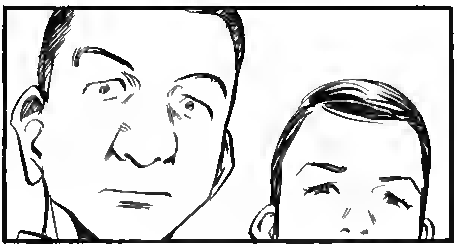



...AND WE TRAVELED FROM MINSK TO HOBOKEN, NEW JERSEY.
AFTER SIX MONTHS, OUR RETURN WAS PERMITTED, ...


YOU MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE COMING BACK HERE.


WELCOME BACK, OSWALD.


NOW HOW ABOUT BECOMING AN AMERICAN HERO?

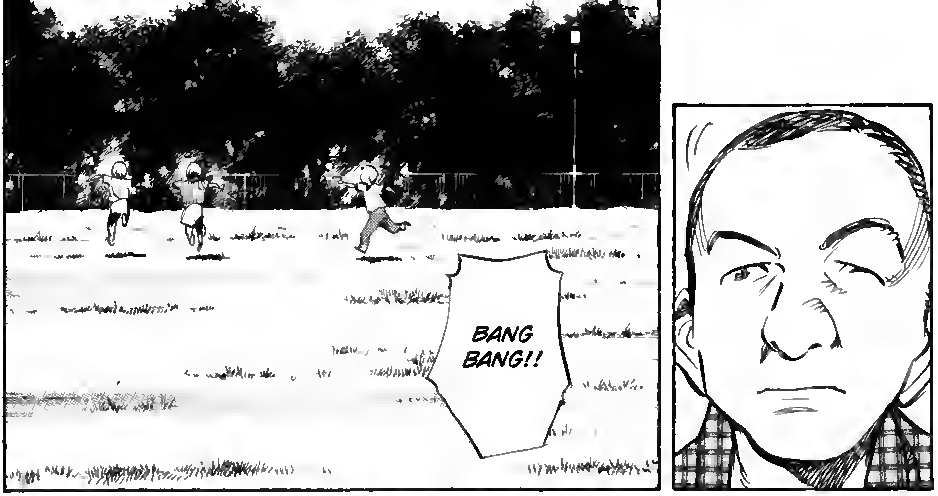


YAHAHAHA !!
WELL, THAT'S MY STORY...
AH.. WELL, YEAH...
.. AS THE MANAGER..?
..AND THEN RECENTLY, YOU'VE STARTED WORKING AT BILLYLAND ...

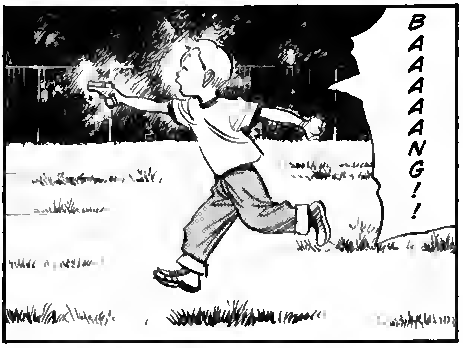
YAHOO!!
YOU SAID SOMETHING ABOUT A JOB ...
A JOB ON WHICH SIDE..?
IN TERMS OF WHITE AND BLACK ...
...I SUPPOSE IT'D BE BLACK.
The Adventures of BILLY BAT
PLUS

GO TO DALLAS FOR ME.
.....
THAT'S THE JOB YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT..?
.....
IT'S A COMPANY CONNECTED TO THE NATIONAL MILITARY ESTABLISH-MENT
HE'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO A SURVEYING COMPANY.
YOU ARE ACQUAINTED WITH MR. MOHREN-SCHILDT, CORRECT?

BANG BANG!!
HOW'S YOUR SHOT?
GOT A GUN?
HUH?
EH?
COULD YOU MAKE IT TO THOSE KIDS?
I MISSED OUT ON MY MARKSMAN'S MEDAL THOUGH...
UH... UHHH.. I HAVE CONFIDENCE IN MYSELF.


BANG BANG!!

PIECE OF CAKE
YEAH...


BAAAAAANG!!

HUH?

ALSO, BUY A RIFLE.

GO PRACTICE SOME MORE, THEN.

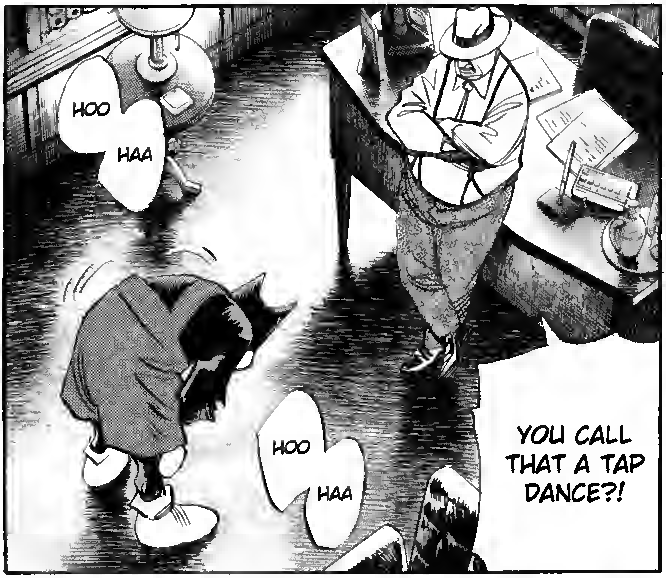
ONE THAT WON'T LEAVE FOOTPRINTS.

WHY IN THE WORLD WOULD I HAVE TO...
UMM..

MAY I SUGGEST UTILIZING A MAIL ORDER SERVICE?

CLAP
CLAP
GENERAL MANAGER
AAAND A ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR!!
ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR!!
CLAP
CLAP
ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR!!
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR!!
CLAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

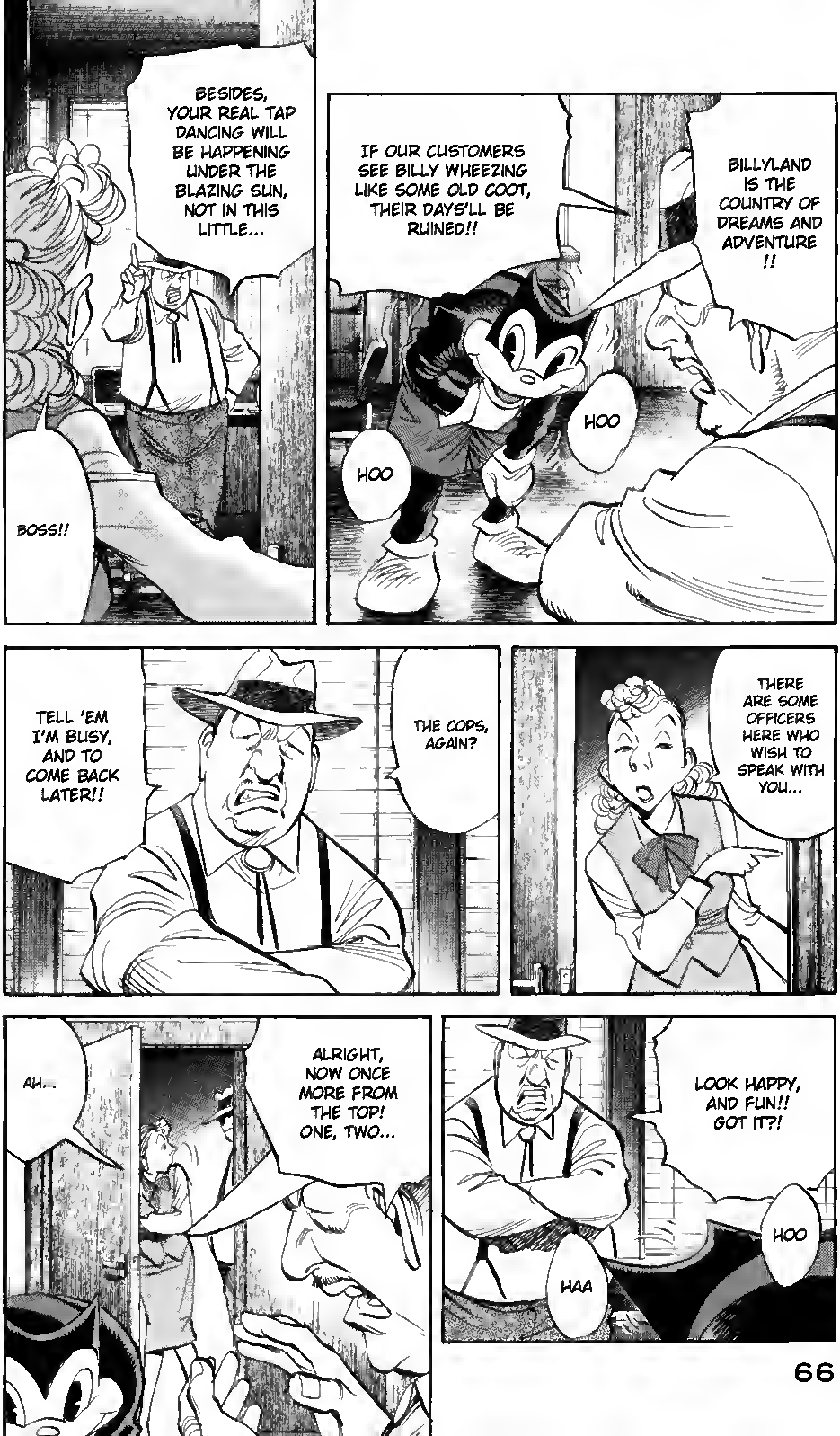
ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR!!
HOO
HAA
HOO
HAA
ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR!!


HOO
HAA
HOO
HAA
YOU CALL THAT A TAP DANCE?!

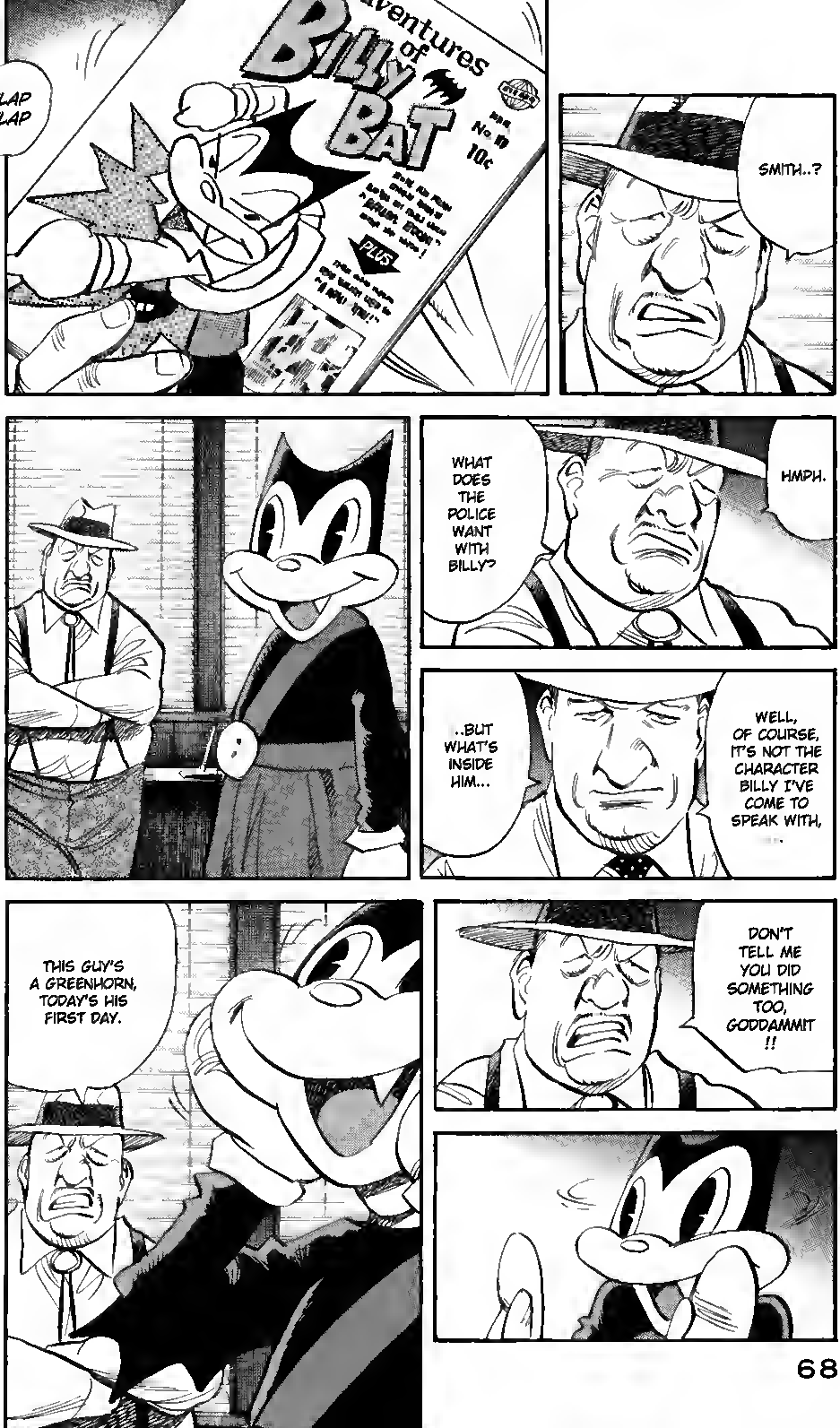
NO, NO, NO!!

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE WHEEZING ALREADY!
DON'T YOU PUKE IN MY OFFICE, LEE!! YOU'LL RUIN THE GODDAMN COSTUME!!

HOO
HAA
OOEEE HHHHH !!


BESIDES, YOUR REAL TAP DANCING WILL BE HAPPENING UNDER THE BLAZING SUN, NOT IN THIS LITTLE...
BOSS!!
IF OUR CUSTOMERS SEE BILLY WHEEZING LIKE SOME OLD COOT, THEIR DAYS'LL BE RUINED!!
BILLYLAND IS THE COUNTRY OF DREAMS AND ADVENTURE !!
HOO
HOO
TELL 'EM I'M BUSY, AND TO COME BACK LATER!!
THE COPS, AGAIN?
THERE ARE SOME OFFICERS HERE WHO WISH TO SPEAK WITH YOU...
AH...
ALRIGHT, NOW ONCE MORE FROM THE TOP! ONE, TWO...
LOOK HAPPY, AND FUN!! GOT IT?!
HOO
HAA

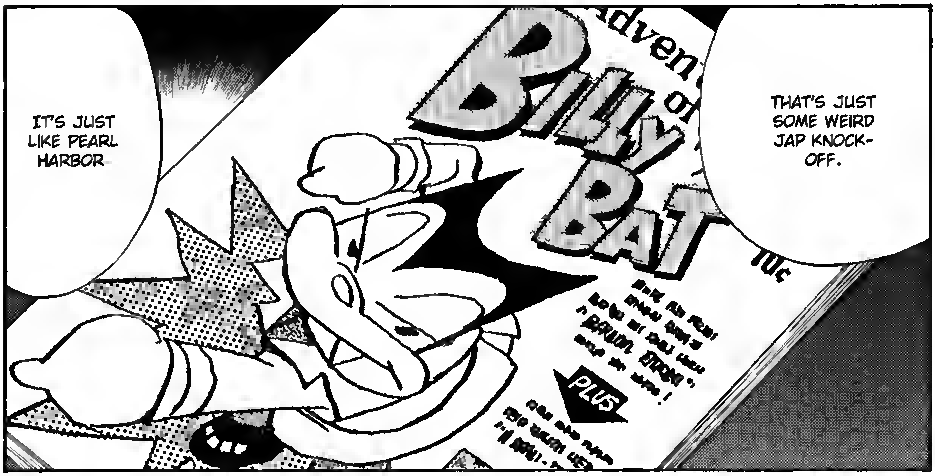
PLEASE, SIR, YOU CAN'T JUST...
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA, HUH?
YOU ALREADY WASTED MY TIME ONCE...
NO, I'M NOT HERE FOR YOU THIS TIME. MR. MANAGER.
IT'S MR. BILLY OVER THERE I WISH TO SPEAK WITH.
HAA
HAA
HAA
OH, EXCUSE ME
IT'S RATHER HOT TODAY, ISN'T IT?
MY NAME IS SMITH.
FLAP FLAP
The Adventures of


FLAP FLAP
Adventures of BILLY BAT
No 17
10¢
PLUS
SMITH..?
HMPH.
WHAT DOES THE POLICE WANT WITH BILLY?
..BUT WHAT'S INSIDE HIM...
WELL, OF COURSE, IT'S NOT THE CHARACTER BILLY I'VE COME TO SPEAK WITH.
THIS GUY'S A GREENHORN, TODAY'S HIS FIRST DAY.
DON'T TELL ME YOU DID SOMETHING TOO, GODDAMMIT !!

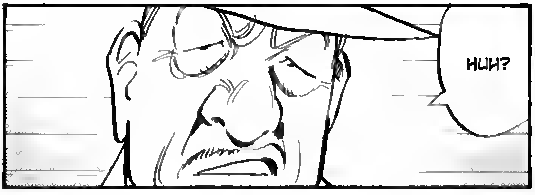
OUR LAST BILLY DISAPPEARED ALL OF A SUDDEN, SO I HAD TO GET A SUDDEN REPLACEMENT...
HOO
HAA
HOO
HAA
GREENHORN..?
.. AND, ABOUT YOUR LAST BILLY...
THIS GUY SAYS HE'S FROM THE NEW YORK ACTOR'S STUDIO, BUT HE COULDN'T TAP DANCE TO SAVE HIS LIFE!
HOO
HAA
HEY, HOLD ON.
HE QUIT, HOW SHOULD I KNOW WHERE HE IS?
I SEE.. THANK YOU.

The Adventures of
BILLY BAT

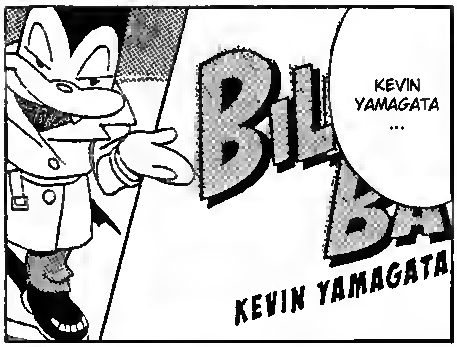
THAT COMIC YOU HAVE, . .
...IT'S A FAKE.

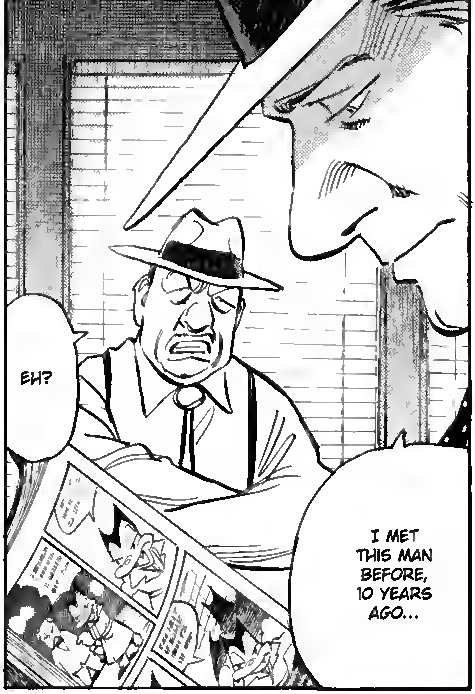

IT'S JUST LIKE PEARL HARBOR
THAT'S JUST SOME WEIRD JAP KNOCK-OFF.
BILLY BAT
PLUS

NO...
PRIZES

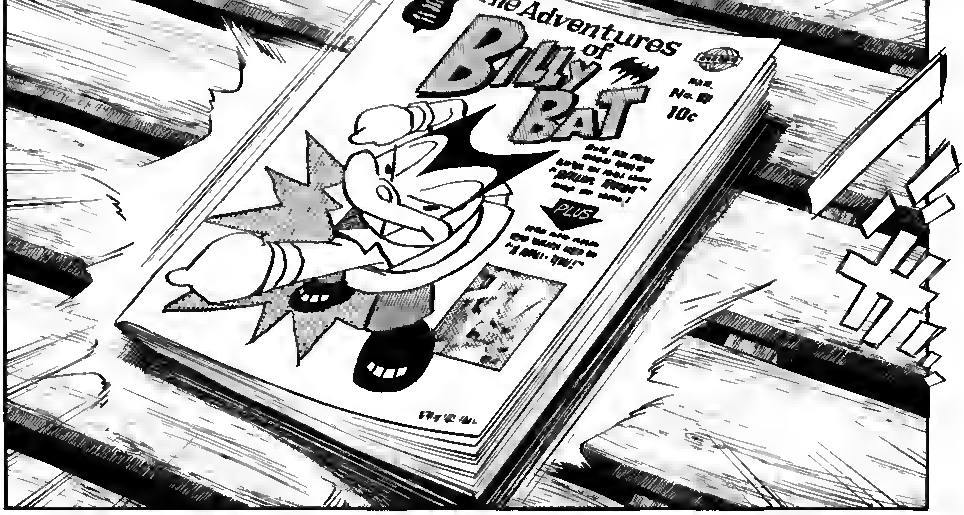

HUH?

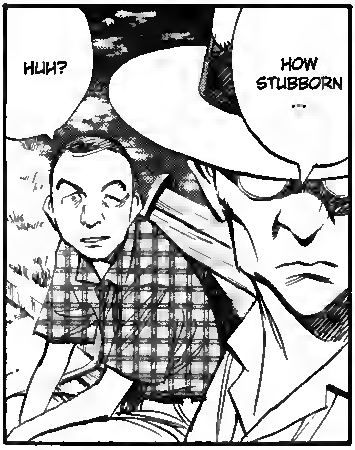
THEY SNEAK IN FROM BEHIND AND TRY TO STEAL OTHERS' THINGS, YA KNOW?
BILLY BAT
PLUS


KEVIN YAMAGATA
...
KEVIN YAMAGATA

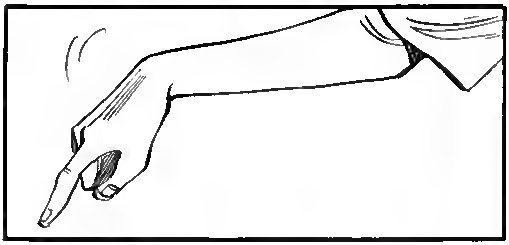

EH?
I MET THIS MAN BEFORE, 10 YEARS AGO...

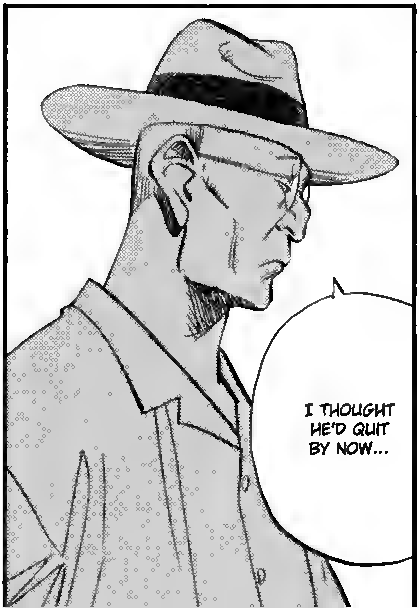
THIS IS THE REAL BILLY BAT.
of
BILLY BAT
No. 10
10c
PLUS


Adventures of
BILLY BAT
No. 18
10c
PLUS


HUH?
HOW STUBBORN ...

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

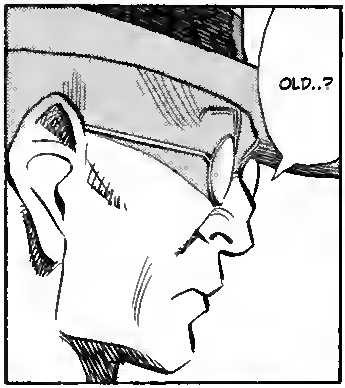


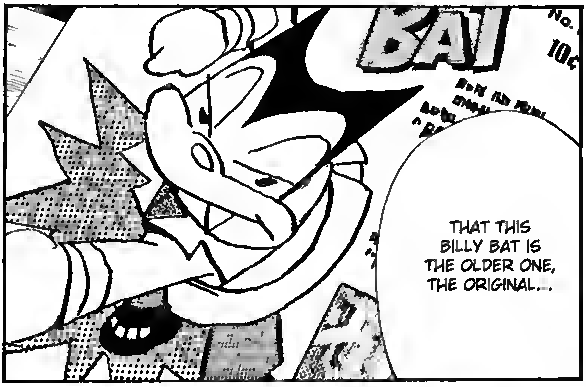

I THOUGHT HE'D QUIT BY NOW...

KEVIN YAMAGATA...

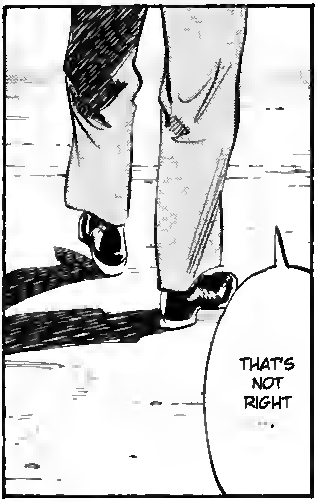
The Adventu
BILLY BAT
PLUS

SOME KID AT BILLYLAND WAS TALKING ABOUT HIM TOO.
AH...


OLD..?

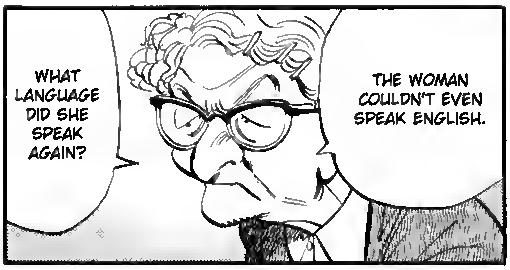

BAT
THAT THIS BILLY BAT IS THE OLDER ONE, THE ORIGINAL...

HUH?

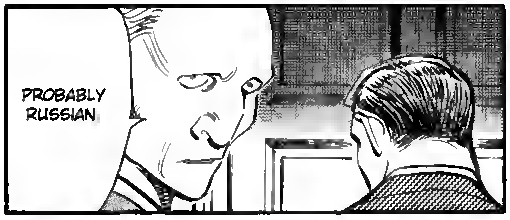

THAT'S NOT RIGHT...

THAT IS KEVIN YAMAGATA'S ...
...NEWEST WORK
The Adventures of BILLY BAT
No. 13
10¢
PLUS

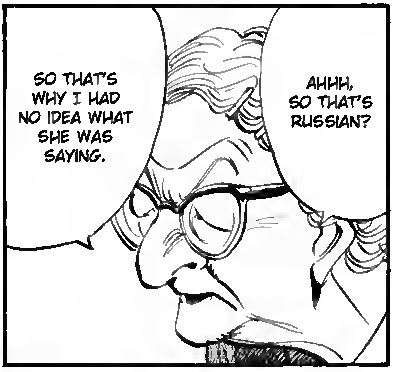
KNOCK KNOCK
KNOCK KNOCK
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR THAT COUPLE. THEY AREN'T HERE ANY-MORE
KNOCK KNOCK
BUT NOT HERE ANYMORE... YOU MEAN THEY RE-TURNED...


WHAT LANGUAGE DID SHE SPEAK AGAIN?
THE WOMAN COULDN'T EVEN SPEAK ENGLISH.

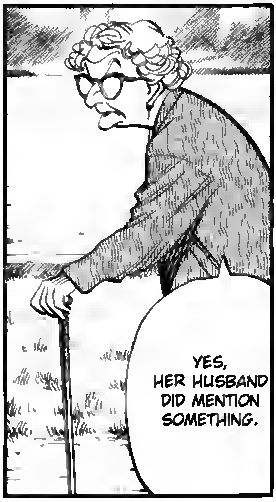
DON'T EVEN KNOW IF THEY RETURNED TO THEIR HOME COUNTRY.
THEY WERE UNFRIENDLY FROM THE MINUTE THEY MOVED IN HERE.


PROBABLY RUSSIAN

AH.. EXCUSE ME


AHHH, SO THAT'S RUSSIAN?
SO THAT'S WHY I HAD NO IDEA WHAT SHE WAS SAYING.

SAID HE WAS GOING TO DALLAS.


YES, HER HUSBAND DID MENTION SOMETHING.

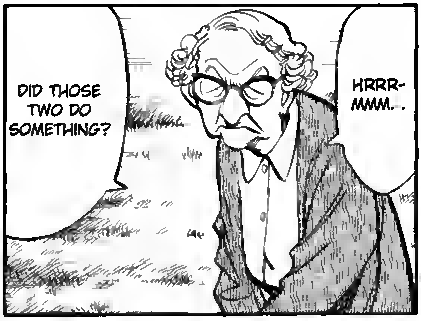
DID YOU HAPPEN TO HEAR WHERE THEY WERE HEADING?

CHAPTER 31 TO THE WEST, TO THE EAST

WHO MIGHT YOU FELLOWS BE, ANYWHO?

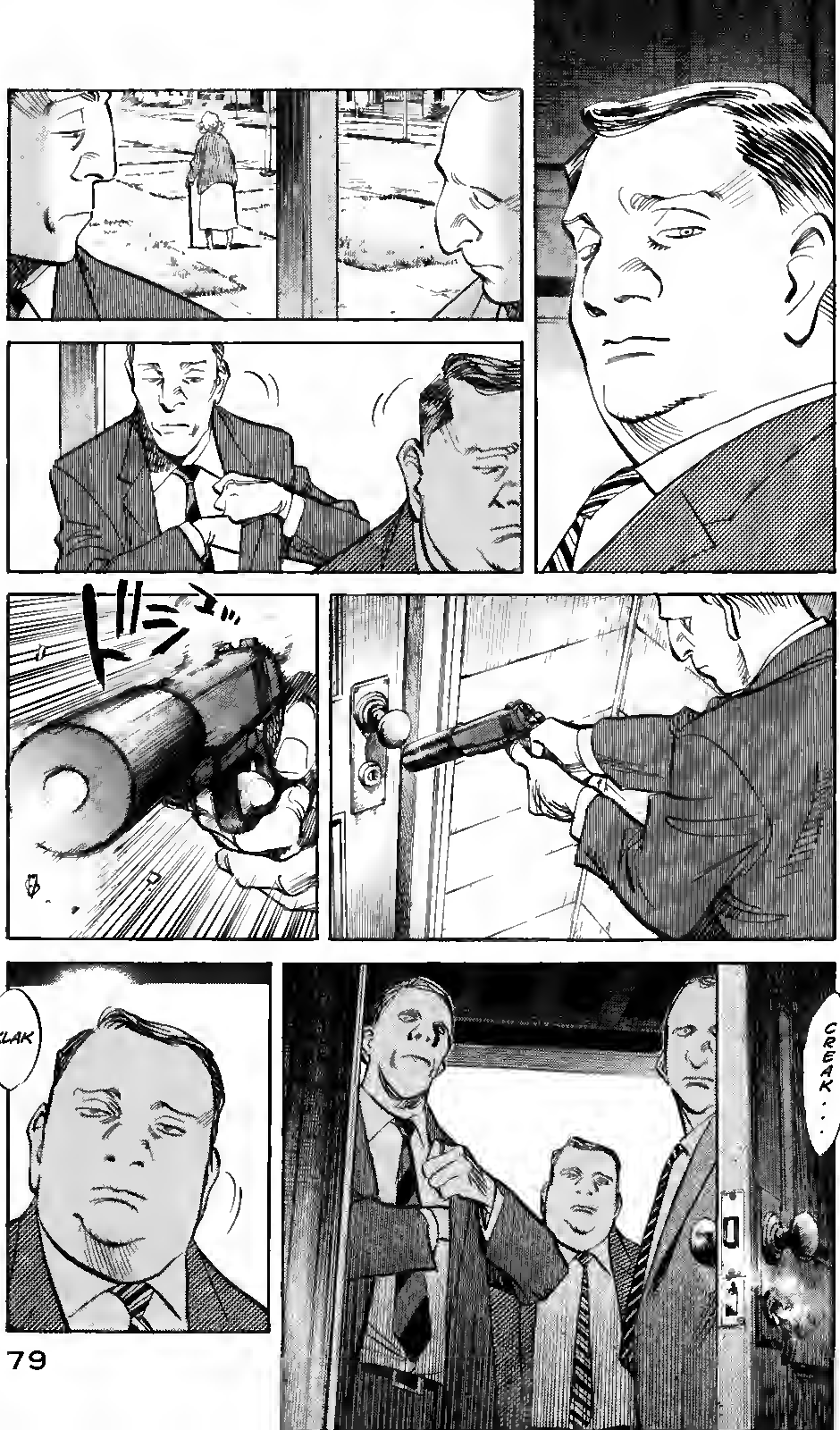
ACQUAINT-ANCES.

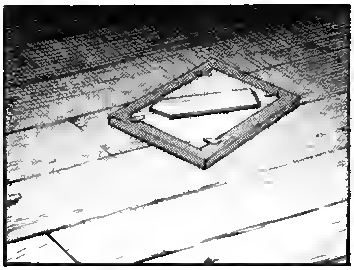
WE JUST HAVE SOMETHING WE'D LIKE TO ASK THEM.
NO...


DID THOSE TWO DO SOMETHING?
HRRR-MMM. .

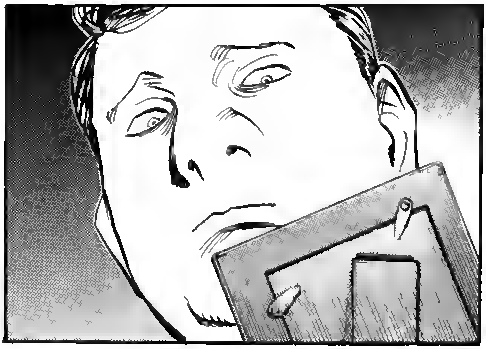
AND THOSE TWO WERE SPIES FROM THE SOVIET UNION. . RIGHT?
YOU'RE FROM THE FBI, OR THE CIA OR SOMETHING.

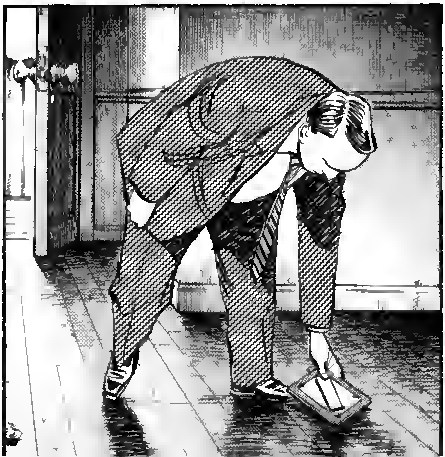
LIAR.
HMPH!


トリニッ
KLAK
CREAK...

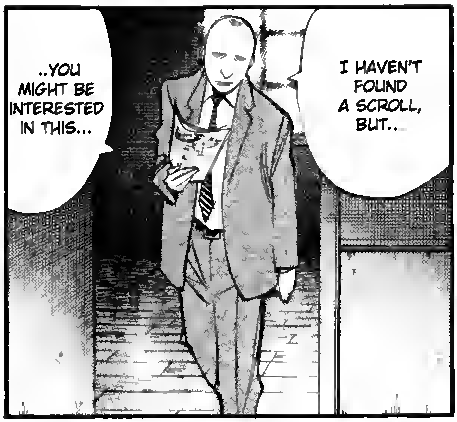


KLAK
KLAK
KLAK

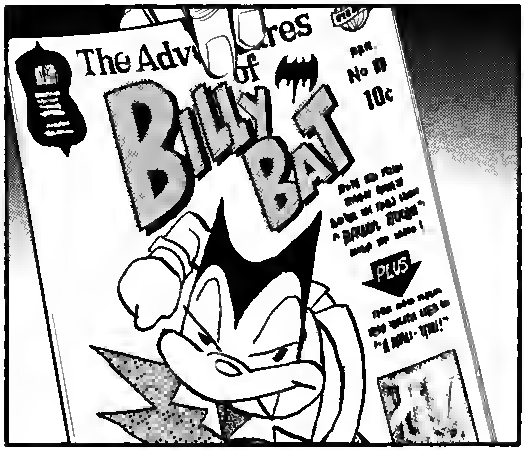


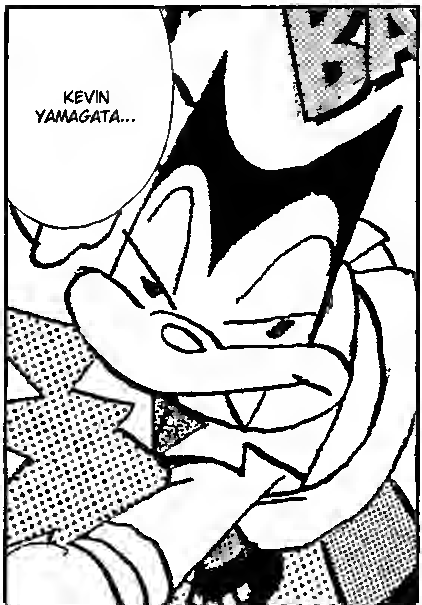


LEE HARVEY OSWALD ...
THEN, OBVIOUSLY ...
THIS PLACE IS AN EMPTY HUSK.

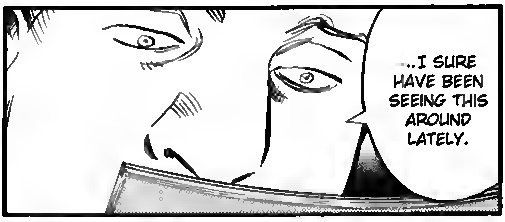

I HAVEN'T FOUND A SCROLL, BUT..
..YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN THIS...

...THE SCROLL IS NOT HERE .. EITHER.

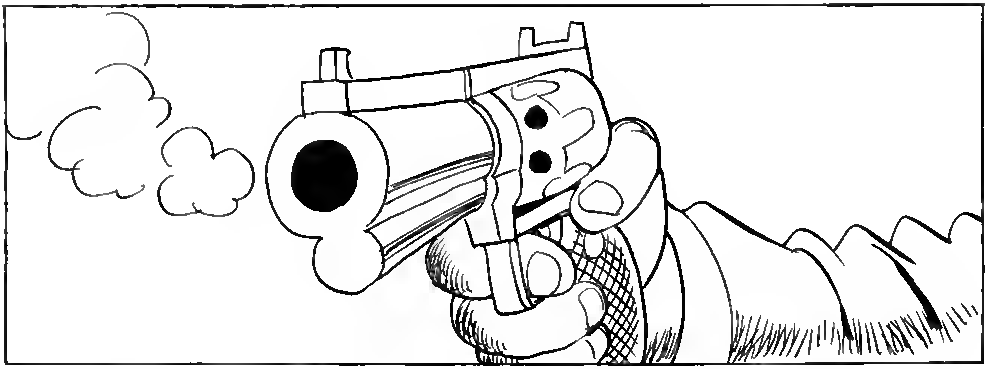

The Adv res of
BILLY BAT
No 19
10¢
PLUS

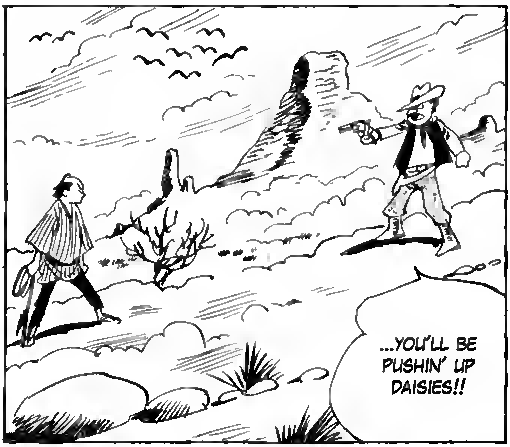

KEVIN YAMAGATA...

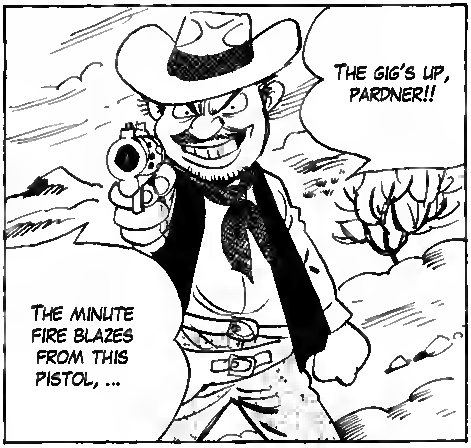
FOR THE PRODUCT OF SOME NO-NAME PUBLISHING COMPANY IN LA..
PRIZES

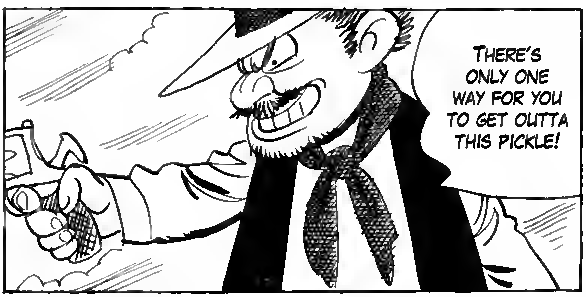

...I SURE HAVE BEEN SEEING THIS AROUND LATELY.

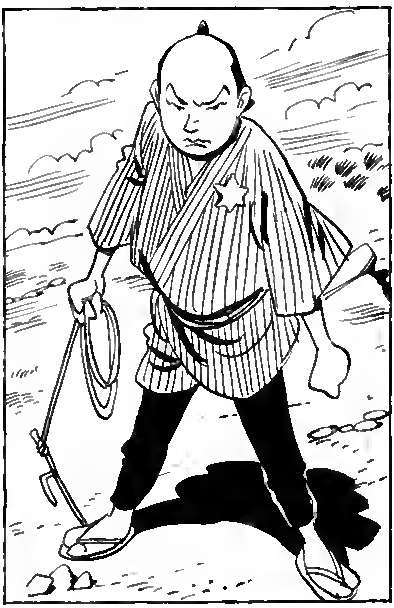
YOU TWO GO TO LA...
I'M HEADING TO DALLAS.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO WHEN WE FIND HIM?
...AND FIND KEVIN YAMAGATA.
DON'T ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT YOU ALREADY KNOW.



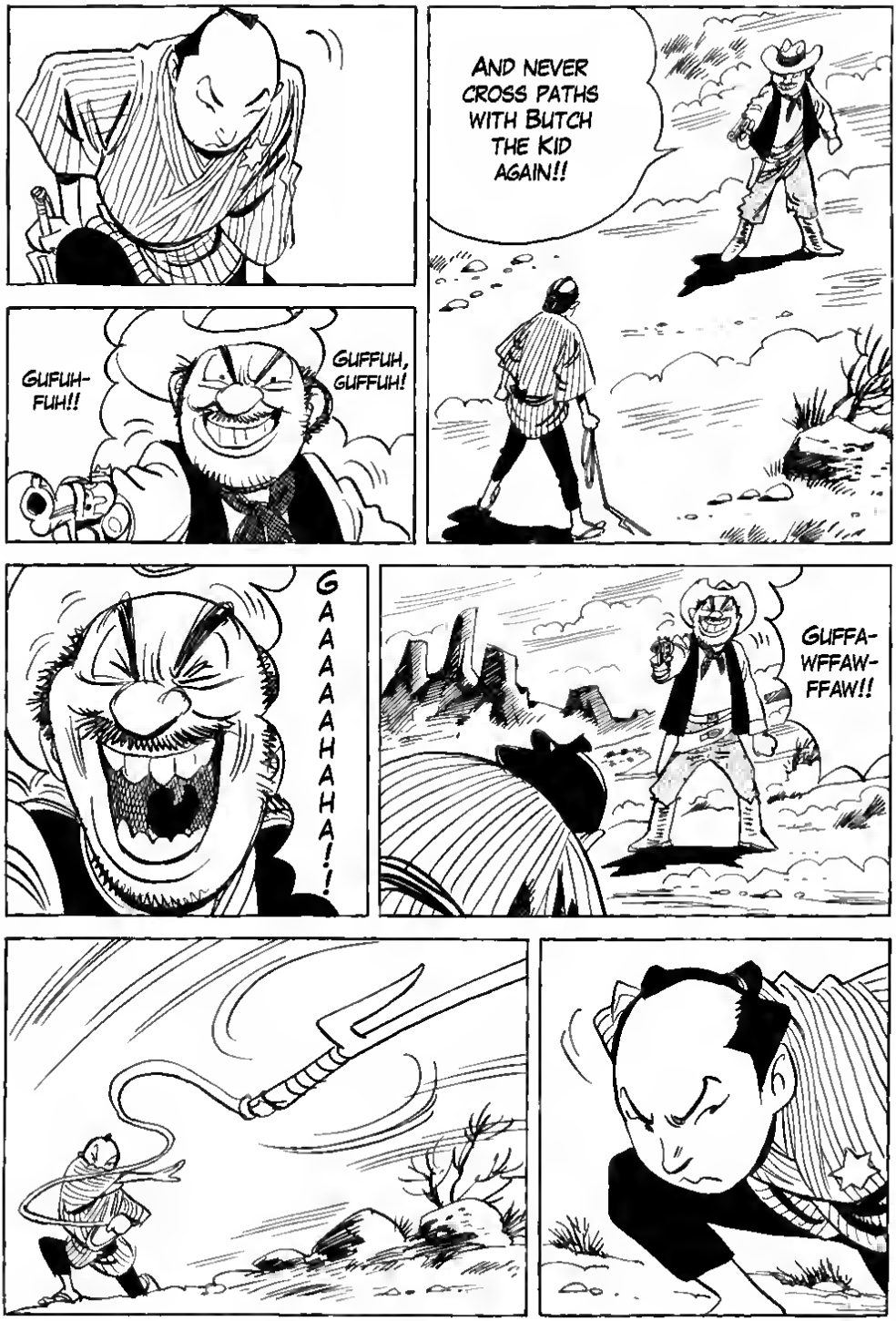

...YOU'LL BE PUSHIN' UP DAISIES!!


THE GIG'S UP, PARDNER!!
THE MINUTE FIRE BLAZES FROM THIS PISTOL, ...


THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY FOR YOU TO GET OUTTA THIS PICKLE!



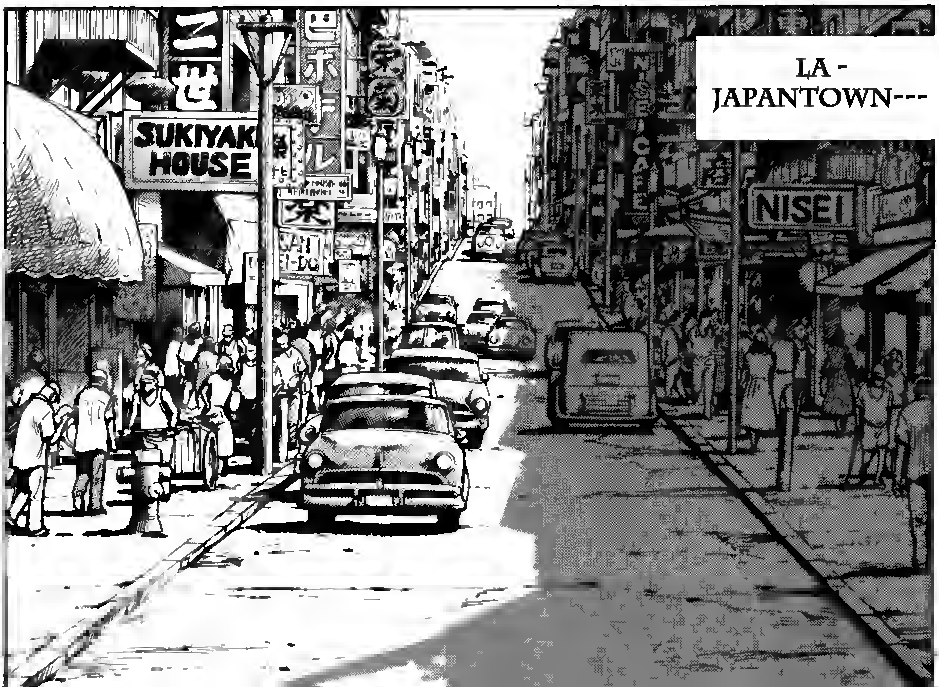
AND THAT'S TO PLEDGE LOYALTY TO GOOD OL' BUTCH HERE!!


AND NEVER CROSS PATHS WITH BUTCH THE KID AGAIN!!
GUFFUH, GUFFUH!
GUFUH-FUH!!
GAAAAAHAHA!!
GUFFA-WFFAW-FFAW!!

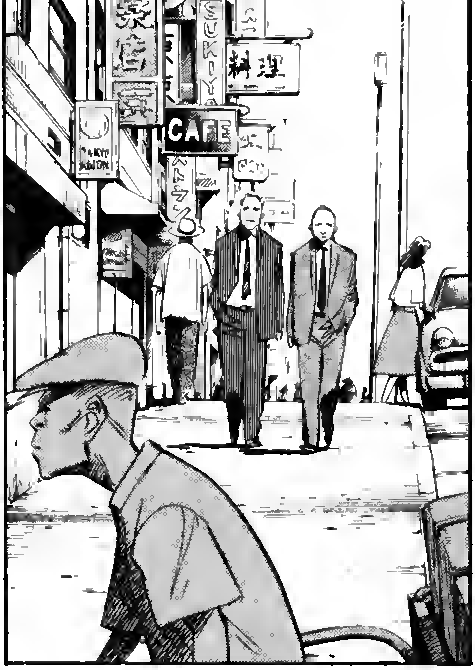
OWWW!!
YIPE!!
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!!
...NO--I, SABUKICHI, WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO LIVE ANOTHER DAY!!
TRY SOMETHING FUNNY AGAIN, AND THIS TRUNCHEON...
I WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO WREAK ANY MORE HAVOC IN THE TOWN!!
HIIIEEEEE! HAVE MERCY!!

...TRUE BLOODED HERO!
YOU... YOU'RE REALLY A...
WH... WHAT IN THE ...
THAT'S YOUR GUN. I'M GIVING IT BACK TO YOU.
NO THANK YOU.
...TAKE THIS PISTOL!!
PLEASE...
VANQUISHING EVIL WHEREVER HE GOES... TO THE EAST, TO THE WEST, WHERE IS PISTOL HAIR OFF TO NEXT? NOBODY KNOWS...
I ALREADY HAVE A FINE PISTOL OF MY OWN RIGHT HERE.

NOW HERE'S A COMIC !!

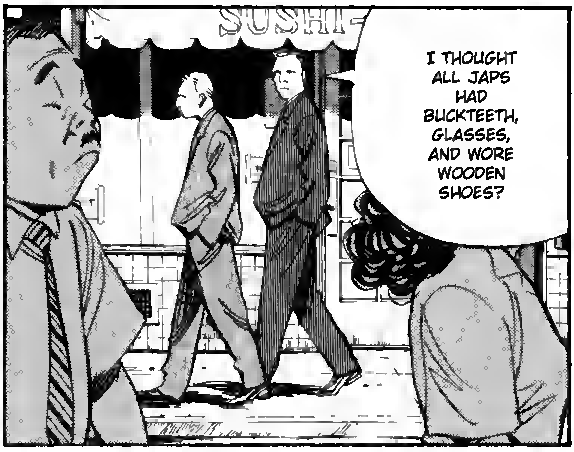

SUKIYAKI HOUSE
NISEI
LA - JAPANTOWN---

WANNA GRAB SOME SUSHI?

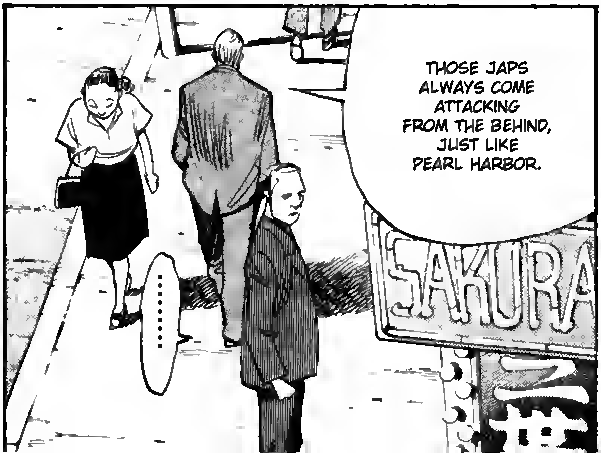

CAFE

SUSHI
MY MOTHER ALWAYS TOLD ME NEVER TO EAT ANYTHING RAW.

!?
BE SURE TO WATCH YOUR BACK HERE

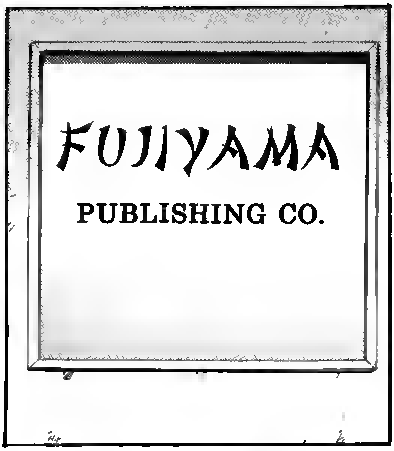

SUSHI
I THOUGHT ALL JAPS HAD BUCKTEETH, GLASSES, AND WORE WOODEN SHOES?

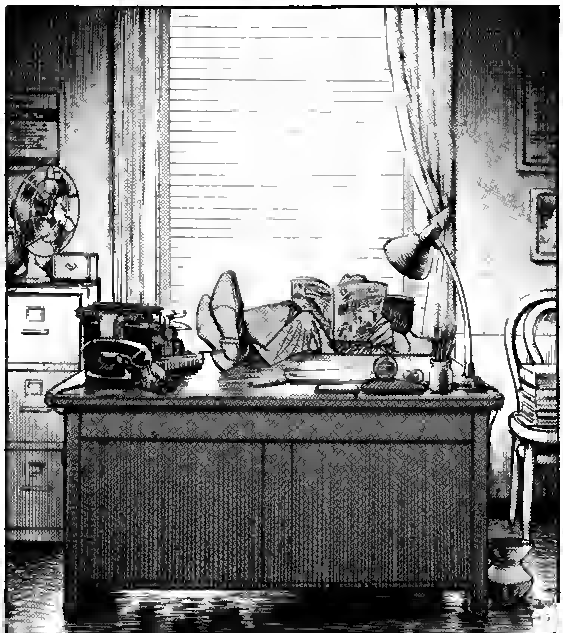
AH...

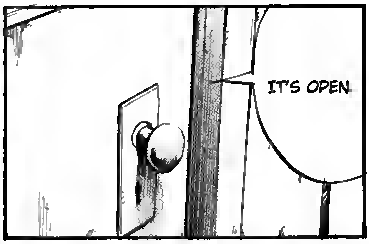

THOSE JAPS ALWAYS COME ATTACKING FROM THE BEHIND, JUST LIKE PEARL HARBOR.
SAKURA

HERE IT IS...
FUJIYAMA
PUBLISHING CO.

KNOCK KNOCK

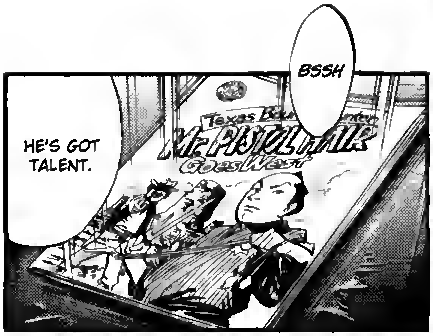

FUJIYAMA
PUBLISHING CO.



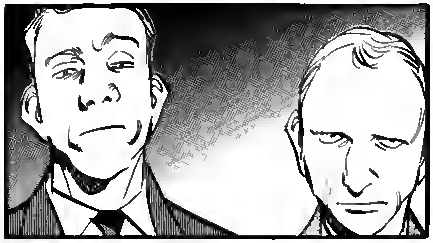

IT'S OPEN

CREAK

THIS IS REALLY SOMETHING.
KU KU KU ...
ARE YOU PRESIDENT TOUGO OF FUJIYAMA PUBLISHING?
THAT ONE'S PRETTY GOOD TOO, BUT I DUNNO IF IT CAN BEAT OUT THIS!
NO COST
Talking PARAKEET
Texas Bounty Hunter
MR. PASTEL HAIR
Classic Wash
YOUR COMPANY IS THE ONE THAT PUBLISHED THIS, CORRECT?
The Adventures of
BILLY BAT
WE'VE COME ASKING ABOUT THE WHEREABOUTS OF THIS COMIC ARTIST... KEVIN YAMAGATA.
MR. TOUGO, IT WOULD BE TO YOUR BENEFIT NOT TO PLAY INNOCENT HERE.


BSSH
HE'S GOT TALENT.

THIS "TEXAS BOUNTY HUNTER MR. PISTOL HAIR GOES WEST"...
...IS ALSO A WORK OF KEVIN YAMA-GATA'S.



WOULDN'T YOU AGREE?

WHO ARE YOU TWO?
SORRY, BUT THE PRESIDENT IS ABSENT FROM HIS POST RIGHT NOW.

DOESN'T LOOK LIKE NO JAP TO ME.

I'M A MEMBER FROM A DIFFERENT GROUP THAN YOURS.
NOW WHO ARE YOU?
WE'RE FROM THE FBI.
COULD I ASK FOR SOME ID?
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
FULL NAME?
SMITH
ID, PLEASE.
JUST ANSWER THE QUESTION.

WOW, THIS IS REALLY HORRIBLE.. EVEN FOR A COUNTERFEIT, THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO BETTER THAN THIS.
PROJECTILE WEAPONS ARE THINGS...
...MEANT TO BE USED WHEN THE ENEMY'S DISTANCED FROM YOU!!

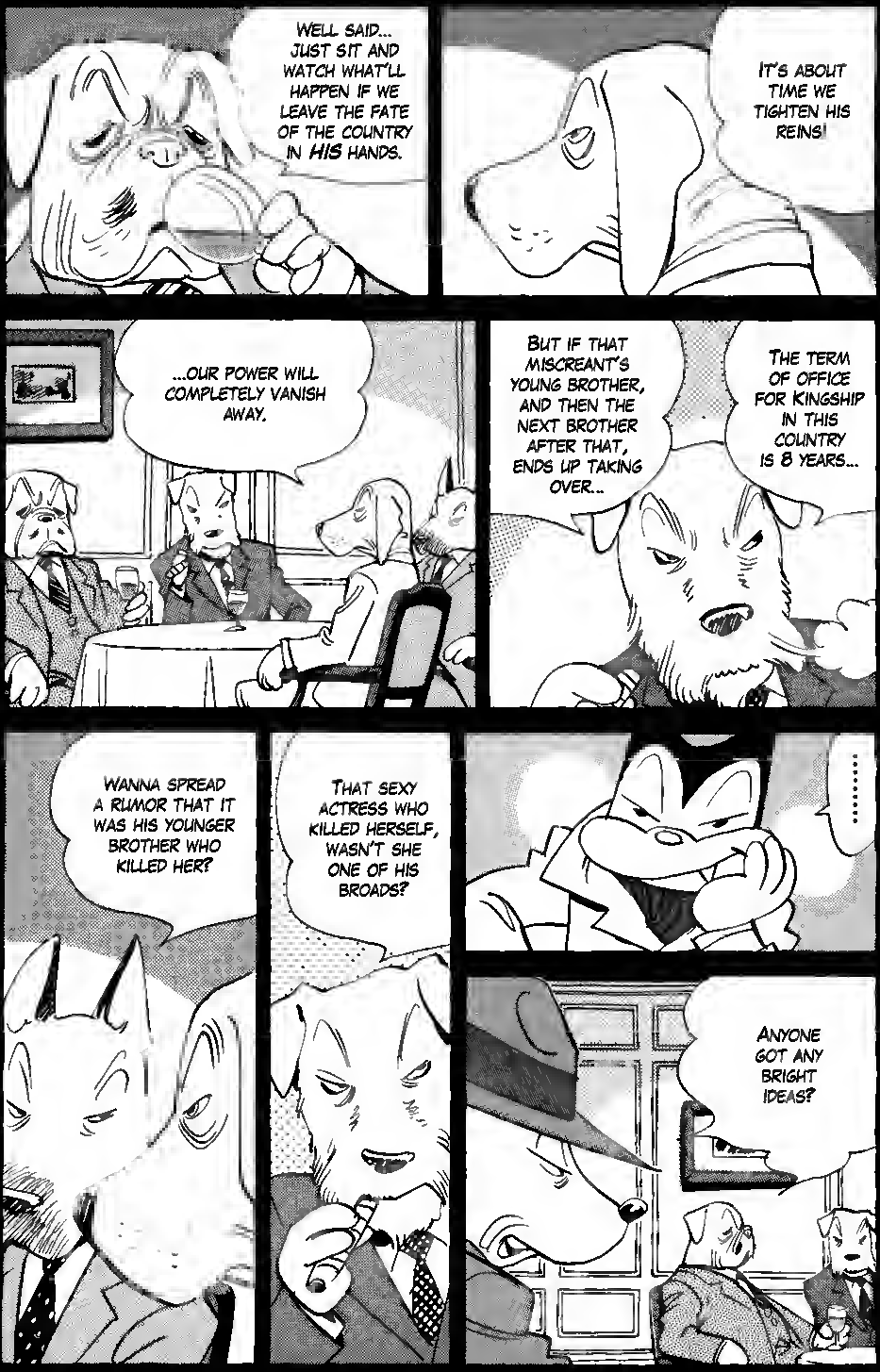
I CAN FIRE A STOLEN GUN WITHOUT A BIT OF HESITATION.
UNFORTUNATELY, I'M NOT A TRUE BLOOD HERO LIKE PISTOL HAIR IS.
NOW HURRY UP AND DISAPPEAR.
HYUH!

CREAK
QUIVER
QUIVER

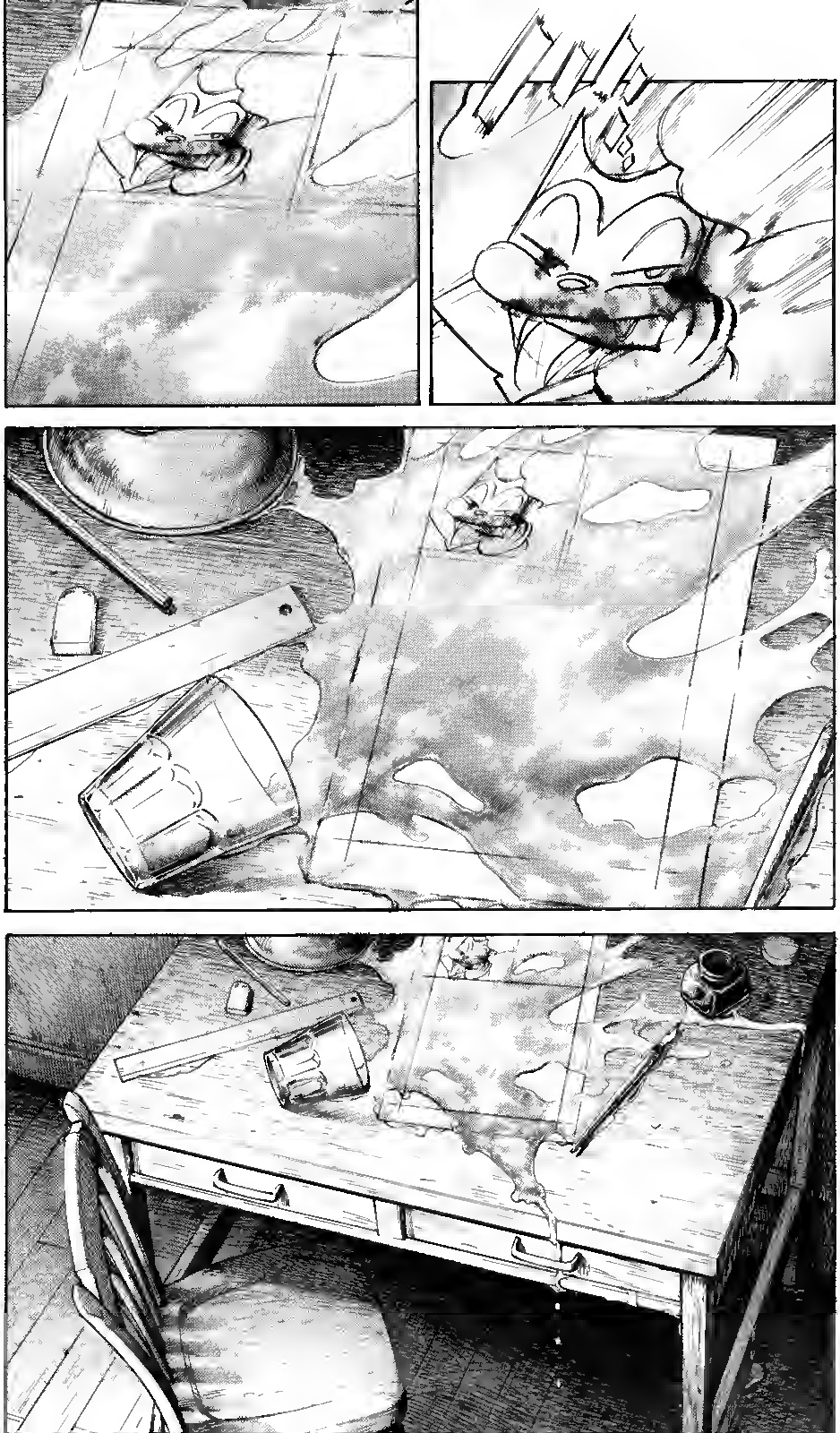
THE SITUATION IS JUST AS IT LOOKS, PRESIDENT TOUGO.
AND THERE'S NO WAY THEY'LL BACK OFF MERELY AFTER SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT, SO I NEED YOU TO TELL ME QUICK.
WHERE IS KEVIN YAMAGATA RIGHT NOW?

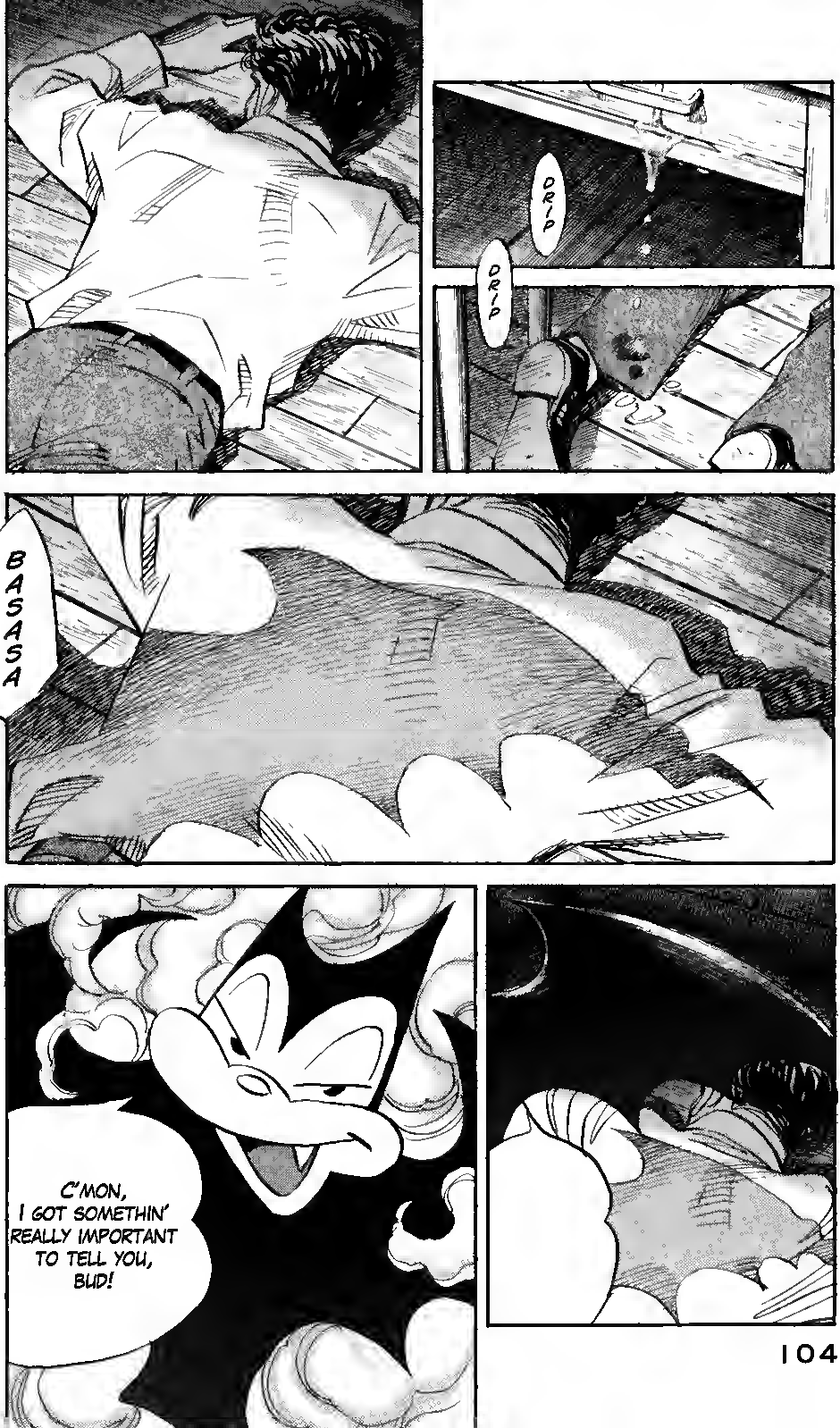
HOWDY.
WHERE'VE YOU BEEN DILLY-DALLYING? IT'S JUST ABOUT TO START.
RESTAURANT PARADISO
A SERIES OF UNPLEASANT THINGS JUST PILED UP ON ME A LITTLE... SO, WHAT LUCKY CONTESTANTS DO WE HAVE TONIGHT?
THEY'RE OVER THERE.

THE TWO IN THE MIDDLE ARE FROM THE UPPER ECHELONS OF A CERTAIN GOVERNMENT AGENCY...
IN THE CENTER WE HAVE A BOSS FROM THE WEAPONS MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.
ON THE LEFT IS A BIG CHEESE IN THE OIL INDUSTRY.
SHALL I PUT MY LIP READING SKILLS TO THE TEST?
WHAT'S THE SPECIAL OCCASION?
WELL, WELL...
AT ANY RATE, WE MUST DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT SCOUNDREL! HE'S GOTTEN TOO CARRIED AWAY WITH HIMSELF!
YEAH... GIVE IT A SHOT, WOULD YA?
INDEED! PINING ONLY TO THE SYMPATHY OF THE CITIZENS...

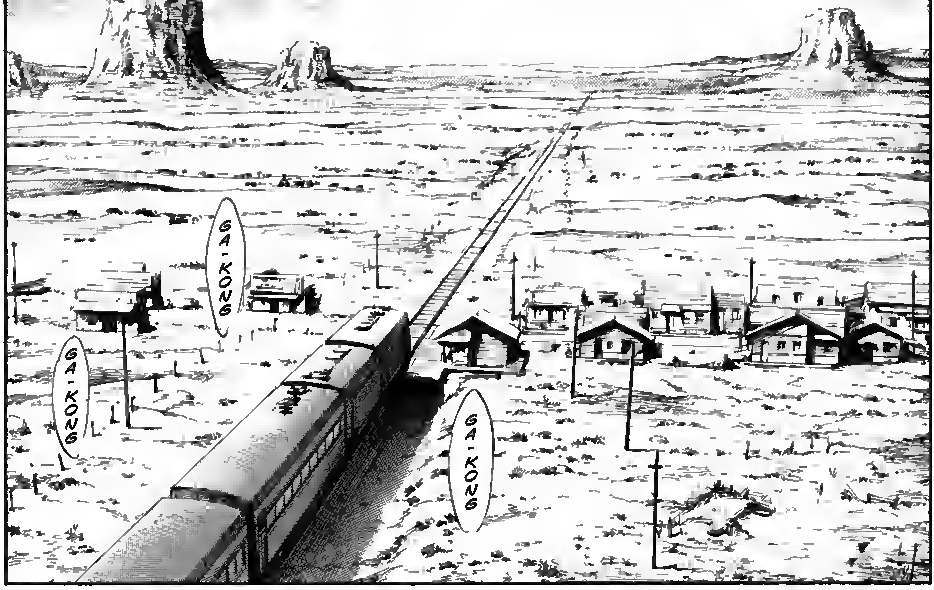

WELL SAID... JUST SIT AND WATCH WHAT'LL HAPPEN IF WE LEAVE THE FATE OF THE COUNTRY IN HIS HANDS.
IT'S ABOUT TIME WE TIGHTEN HIS REINS!
...OUR POWER WILL COMPLETELY VANISH AWAY.
BUT IF THAT MISCREANT'S YOUNG BROTHER, AND THEN THE NEXT BROTHER AFTER THAT, ENDS UP TAKING OVER...
THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR KINGSHIP IN THIS COUNTRY IS 8 YEARS...
WANNA SPREAD A RUMOR THAT IT WAS HIS YOUNGER BROTHER WHO KILLED HER?
THAT SEXY ACTRESS WHO KILLED HERSELF, WASN'T SHE ONE OF HIS BROADS?
.....
ANYONE GOT ANY BRIGHT IDEAS?

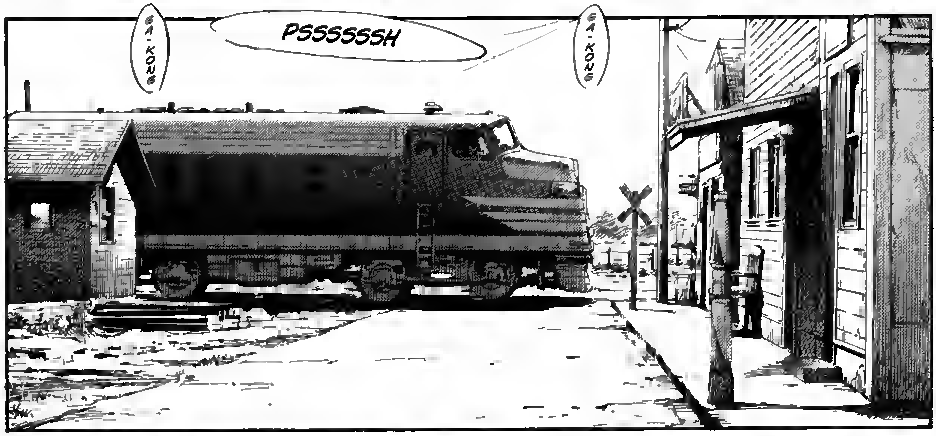
...WOULD BE TO HAVE HIM DIE, OF COURSE...
THE BEST SOLUTION...
...AND THERE YOU HAVE IT.
WELL YEAH, THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING...
THE "SCOUNDREL" THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT IS...

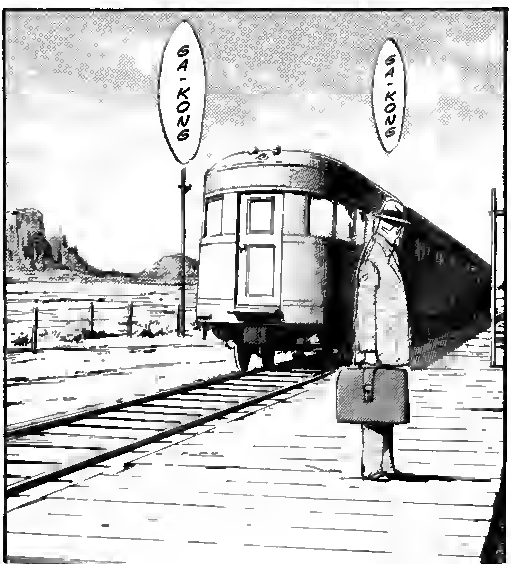



DRIP
DRIP
BASASA
C'MON, I GOT SOMETHIN' REALLY IMPORTANT TO TELL YOU, BUD!

CHAPTER 32 THE JAPANESE IMPRESSION


GA-KONG
GA-KONG
GA-KONG

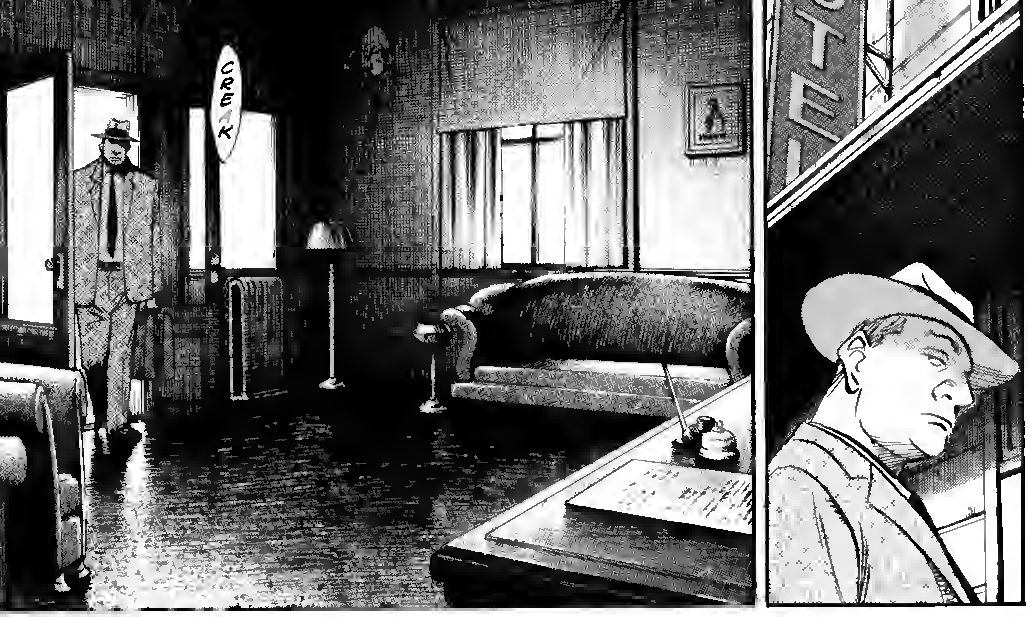

GA-KONG
PSSSSSSH
GA-KONG

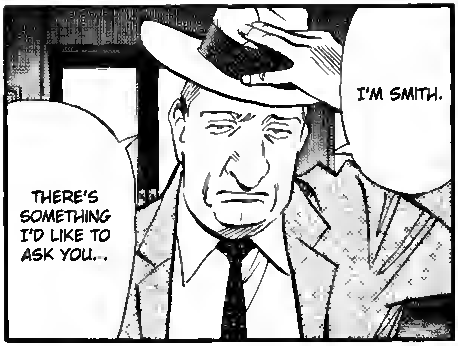

GA-KONG
GA-KONG

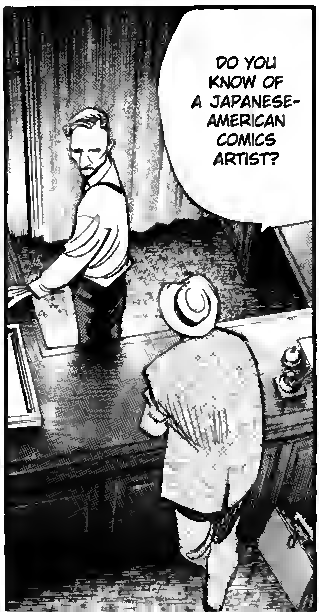
BAR & GRILL
LOOKS JUST LIKE THE SET FROM SOME OLD COUNTRY WESTERN.

IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER BEEN HERE, AND YET IT FEELS STRANGELY FAMILIAR...

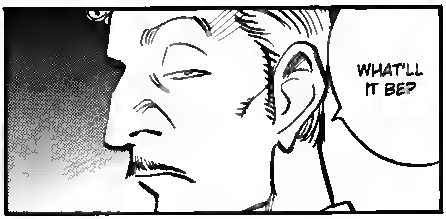
PEH!


CREAK


I'M SMITH.
THERE'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU..


DO YOU KNOW OF A JAPANESE-AMERICAN COMICS ARTIST?

HUH?

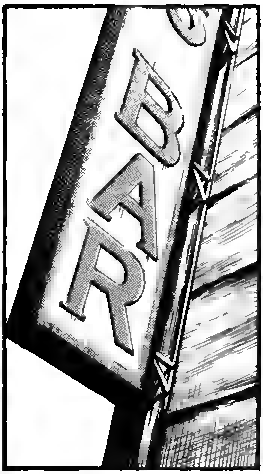

WHAT'LL IT BE?

IS THERE A COMICS ARTIST LIVING IN THIS TOWN?

AHHH... SORRY, MISTER, WE'RE ALL FILLED UP ...
I'D LIKE TO STAY THE NIGHT. GOT ANY ROOMS OPEN?
.....
I AIN'T NEVER HEARD O' NO JAP COMICS ARTIST.
AH, MISTER, WHAT'RE YA...
CLICK
THE LIST'S COMPLETELY EMPTY.

ZA...
DSH

CREAK

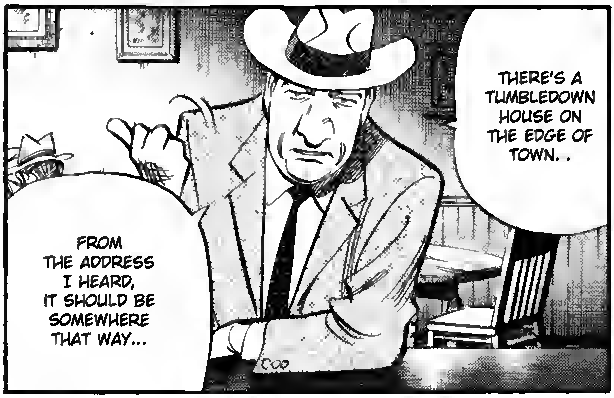

BAR

BOURBON..

WE JUST HAPPEN TO BE OUTTA DRINK AT THIS VERY MOMENT.
AHH, SORRY, MISTER.

I'M LOOKING FOR A JAPANESE-AMERICAN COMICS ARTIST, RING ANY BELLS?

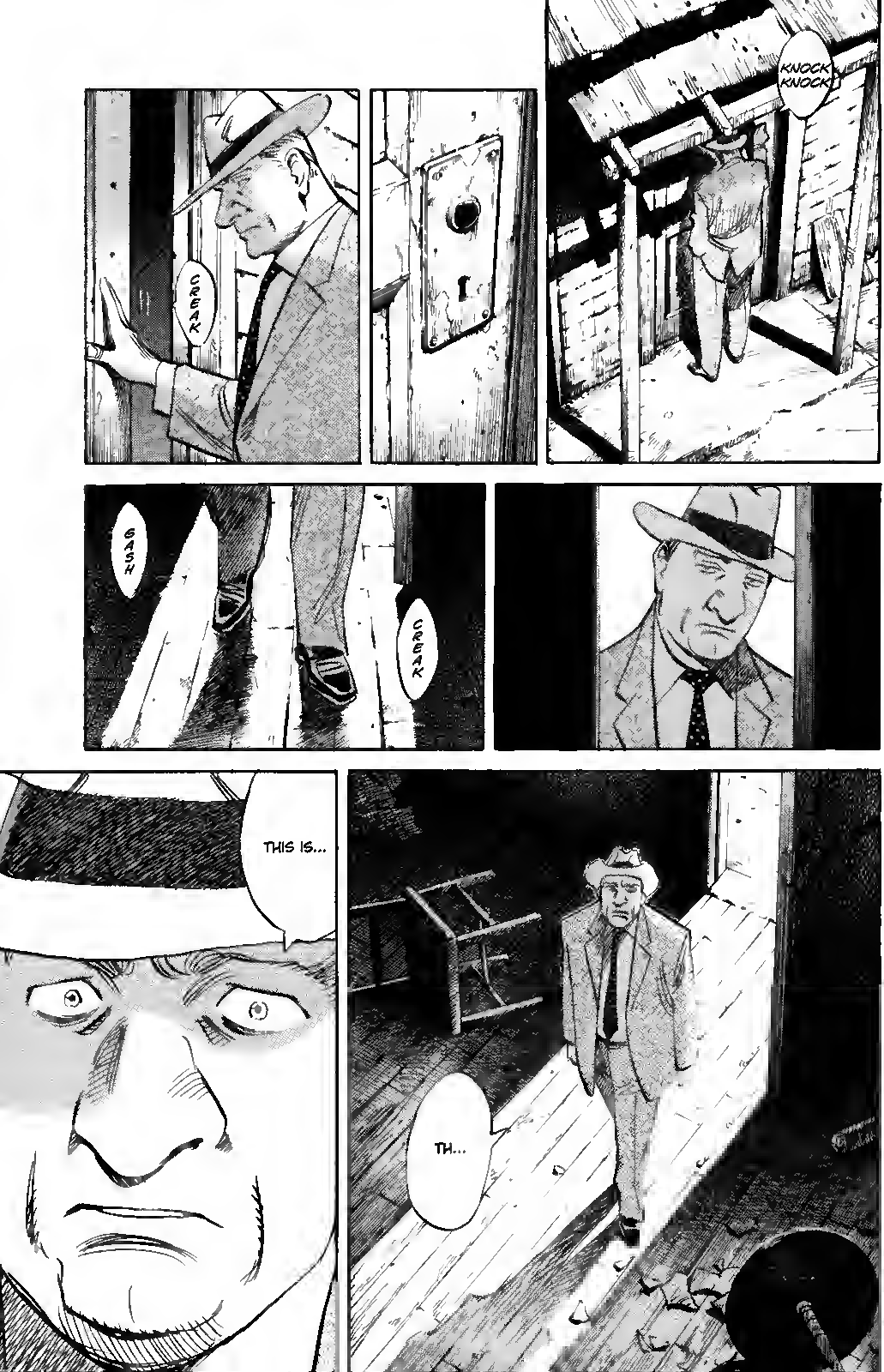
I DUNNO ...
AIN'T GOT NO JAP FRIENDS


THERE'S A TUMBLEDOWN HOUSE ON THE EDGE OF TOWN. .
FROM THE ADDRESS I HEARD, IT SHOULD BE SOMEWHERE THAT WAY...

AND IF THERE WAS, IT'S GOTTA BE A SPOOK!
GET TOO CLOSE AND IT'LL BEWITCH YA, PARTNER.

NOBODY'S LIVED IN THAT PLACE FOR MORE'N TEN YEARS.

IN ANY CASE, I ADVISE YOU DON'T OVERSTAY YOUR WELCOME IN THIS TOWN.
ZAH
ZAH
ZAH


KNOCK KNOCK
CREAK
SASH
CREAK
THIS IS...
TH...

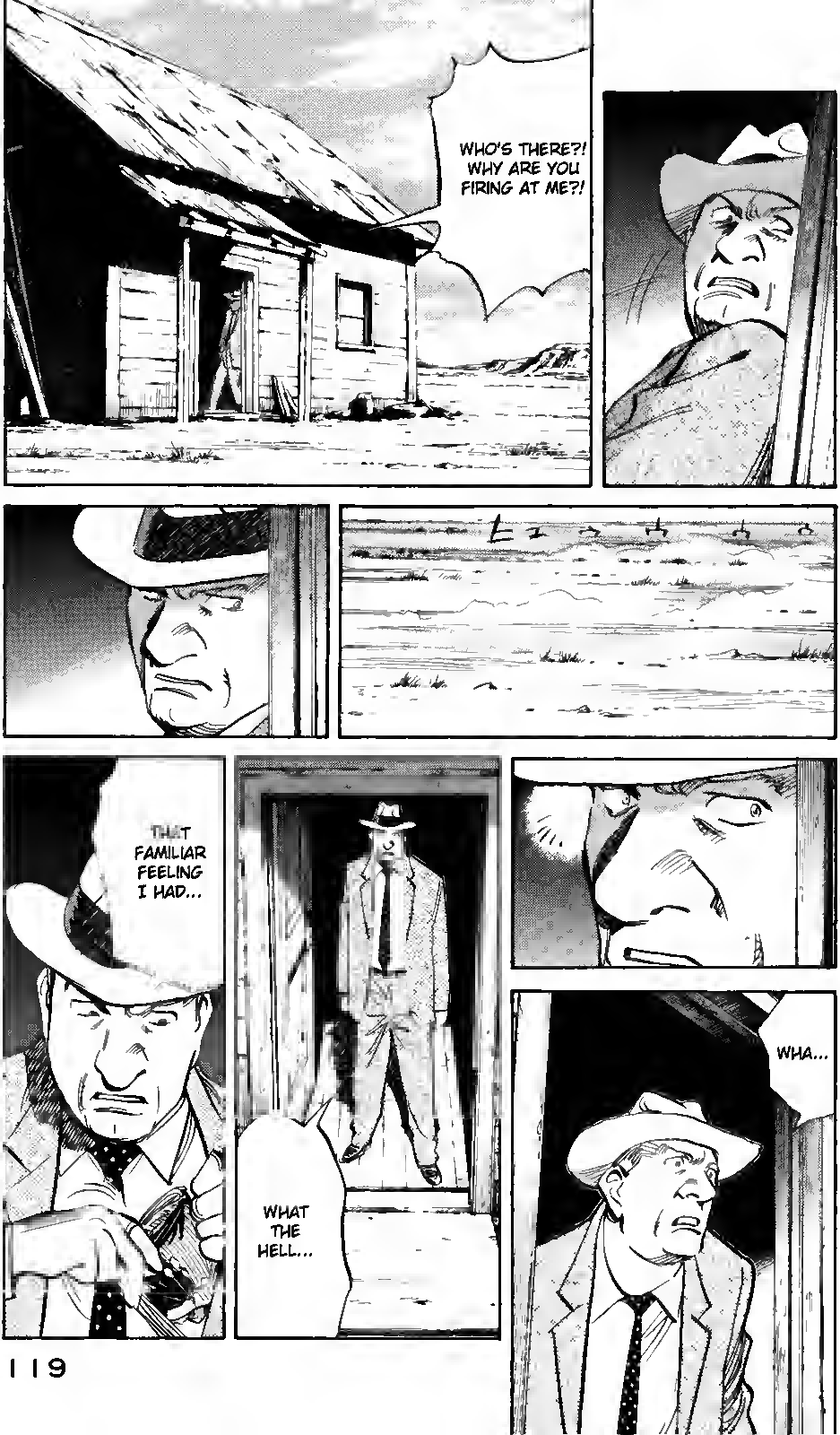
Alone
Getaway
Shimokama
ASSASSIN
Ninja

SHIMOYAMA ..
Shimoyama
A TRAIN..?
Ninja
A NINJA..?
THIS IS..
A SAMURAI..?
Leave Me Alone
"LEAVE ME ALONE..."
"GET AWAY!!"
Getaway
A CROSS..?

Fuckin' Bat!
"FUCKIN' BAT!!"

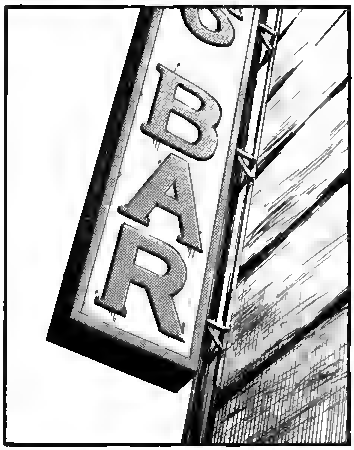
ASSASSIN...
ASSASSIN

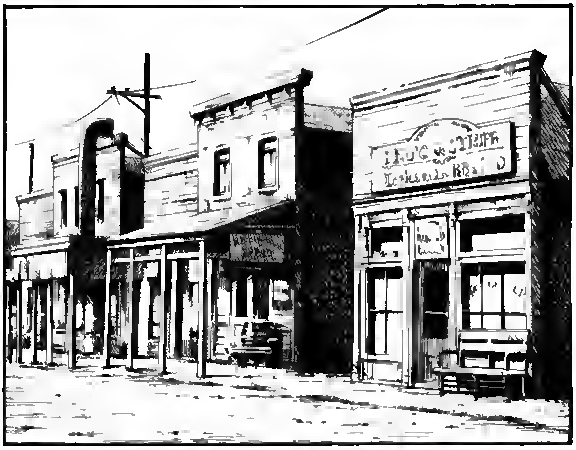
!!
BLOOD...


WHO'S THERE?! WHY ARE YOU FIRING AT ME?!
THAT FAMILIAR FEELING I HAD...
WHAT THE HELL...
WHA...

...IT WAS BECAUSE OF THIS!!
Texas Bounty Hunt
Mr. PISTOL HAI
GoosWest
NO COST
Talking PARAK
CAGE
Free
Texas Bounty Hunt
PISTOL HAI
GoosWest

IS THIS WHERE HE DREW HIS COMICS..?

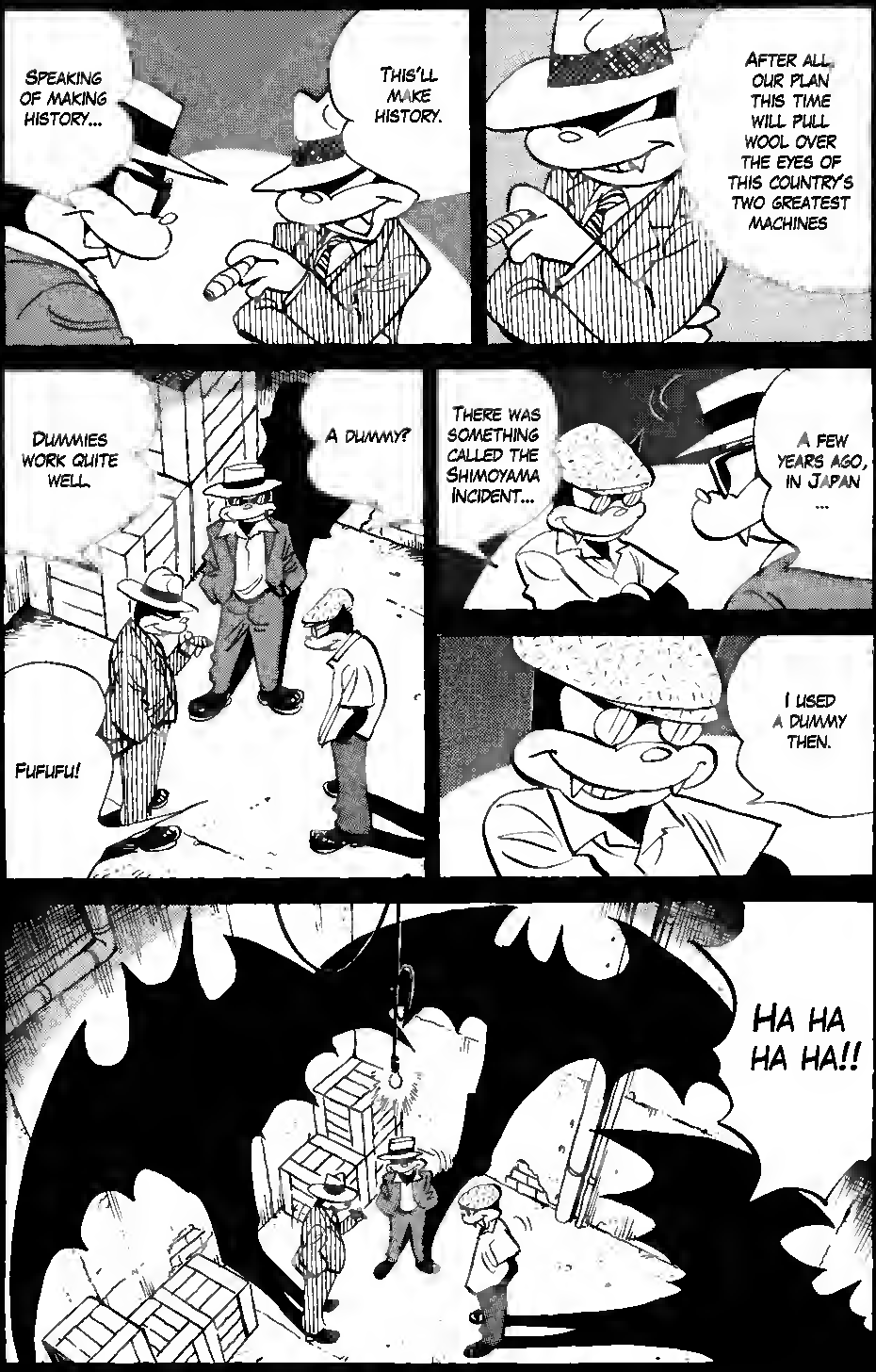

BAR



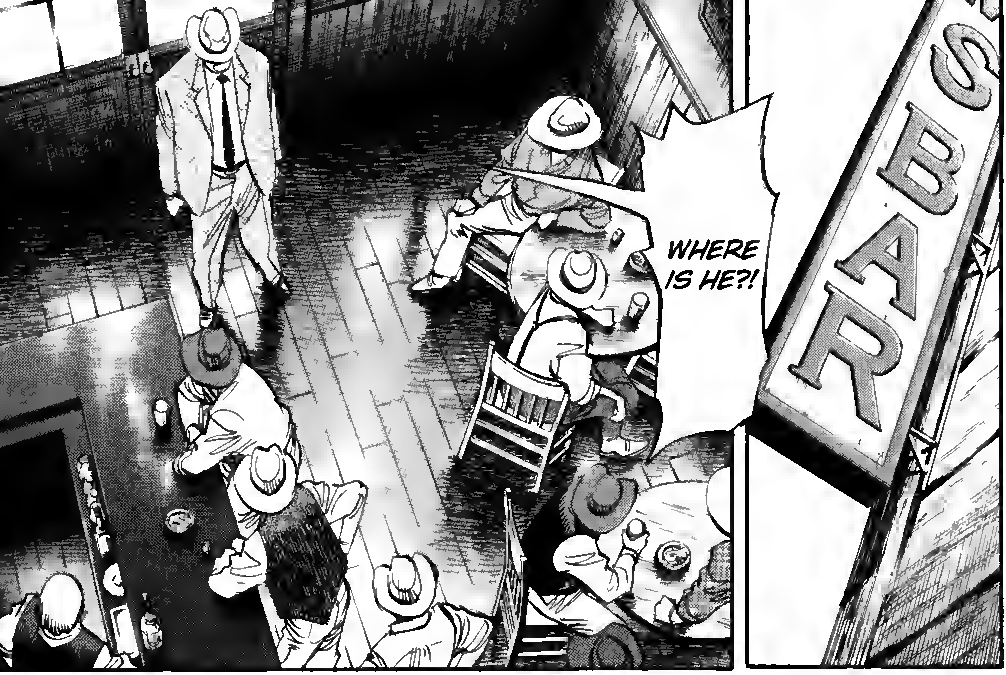
WHAT DID YOU BASTARDS DO...
WHAT DID YOU DO TO KEVIN YAMAGATA ?!

YOU MUST BE ONE DAGO-LOVIN' SOB TO WANNA MEET IN A PLACE LIKE THIS.
KLOK
KLOK
HEH! I SUPPOSE IT'S BETTER THAN BEING FORCED TO HEAR THAT NOISE THOSE CUBANS CALL MUSIC.
I JUST THOUGHT IT'D BE A MORE RELAXING PLACE FOR A GLUM JAP LIKE YOU.
OH, SHOVE IT, YOU DAGO!!
WHAT'D YOU SAY, YOU DAMN JAP?!
YOU WANNA GO, CUBIE?!

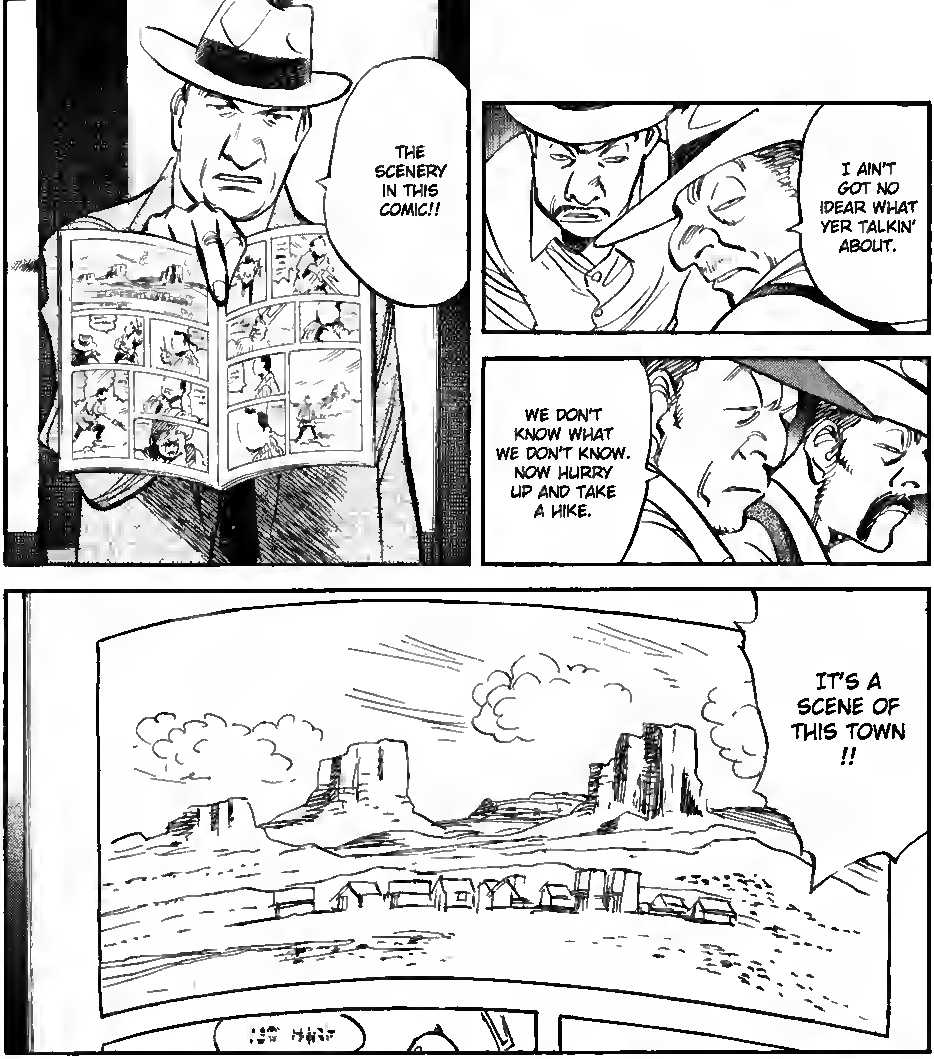
FUFU... AND THIS IS NO PAPER. IT'S A WEAPON THAT HAS SENT NUMEROUS PEOPLE OFF TO ANOTHER PLANE...
HEH! IF THESE SCISSORS WERE A GUN, YOU TWO'D BE DEAD RIGHT NOW.
WATCH IT, BUB. THIS AIN'T NO ROCK, IT'S A KNUCKLE SANDWICH!
KARATE CHOP.
THAT JAPANESE LEGEND...
SO THAT'S THE RUMORED ...
IT'S A COUP D'ETAT.
IT ISN'T AN ASSASSI-NATION.
WATCH WHERE YOU'RE SWINGIN' THAT THING!
.....
THAT SOUNDS MORE PROMISING.
FUFU...
...SHALL WE DISCUSS THE ASSASSINATION. THEN..?


SPEAKING OF MAKING HISTORY...
THIS'LL MAKE HISTORY.
AFTER ALL, OUR PLAN THIS TIME WILL PULL WOOL OVER THE EYES OF THIS COUNTRY'S TWO GREATEST MACHINES
DUMMIES WORK QUITE WELL.
A DUMMY?
FUFUFU!
THERE WAS SOMETHING CALLED THE SHIMOYAMA INCIDENT...
A FEW YEARS AGO, IN JAPAN ...
I USED A DUMMY THEN.
HA HA HA HA!!

CHAPTER 33: THE JAPANESE AUTHENTICATION


WHERE IS HE?!
BAR

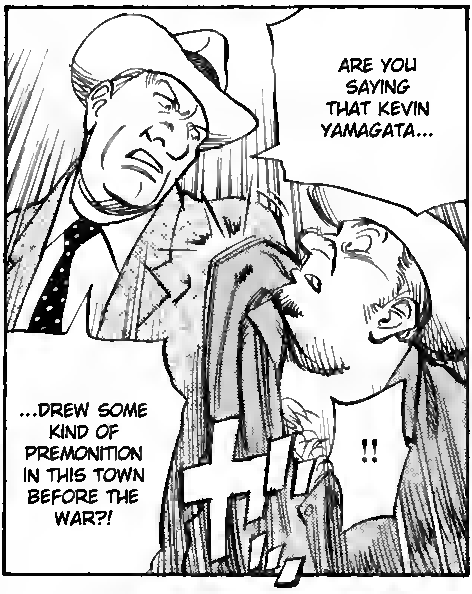
WHERE IS KEVIN YAMA-GATA?!


THE SCENERY IN THIS COMIC!!
I AIN'T GOT NO IDEAR WHAT YER TALKIN' ABOUT.
WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE DON'T KNOW. NOW HURRY UP AND TAKE A HIKE.
IT'S A SCENE OF THIS TOWN !!
THAT MAKES TWO OF US.
I JUST MOVED HERE, SO I DON'T KNOW NOTHIN' 'BOUT NO COMIC
NAH, THREE!
THIS WAS... MADE BEFORE THE WAR.
Texas Bounty Hunter
PISTOL HAIR
Goes West
WOAH, WOAH... WHEN WAS THAT COMIC DRAWN?

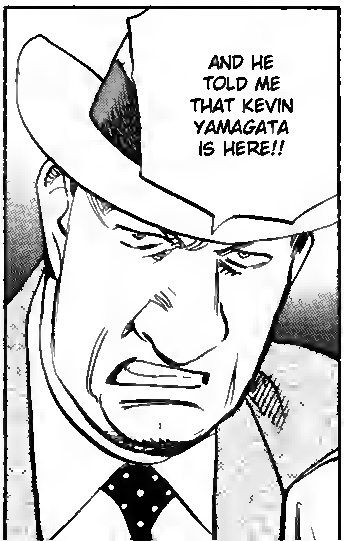
THAT GRAFFITI WAS DRAWN RECENTLY!!
.....
HOW ABOUT THE GRAFFITI ON THE HOUSE OUTSIDE OF TOWN, THEN?
THE PICTURE OF THE TRAIN IN THAT GRAFFITI...
THE SHIMOYAMA CASE HAPPENED AFTER THE WAR WITH JAPAN!!
SO IT'S A PRE-MONITION?

はっはっはっはっは
A PRE-MONITION, EH?! THAT'S A GOOD ONE!
THAT'S IT, THAT'S GOTTA BE IT!
YEAH, A PRE-MONITION !!

HEY, LET HIM GO.


ARE YOU SAYING THAT KEVIN YAMAGATA...
...DREW SOME KIND OF PREMONITION IN THIS TOWN BEFORE THE WAR?!
!!

WHAT ARE YOU PEOPLE HIDING?!


AND HE TOLD ME THAT KEVIN YAMAGATA IS HERE!!

I HEARD ABOUT THIS PLACE FROM PRESIDENT TOUGO OF FUJIYAMA PUBLISHING IN LA!!

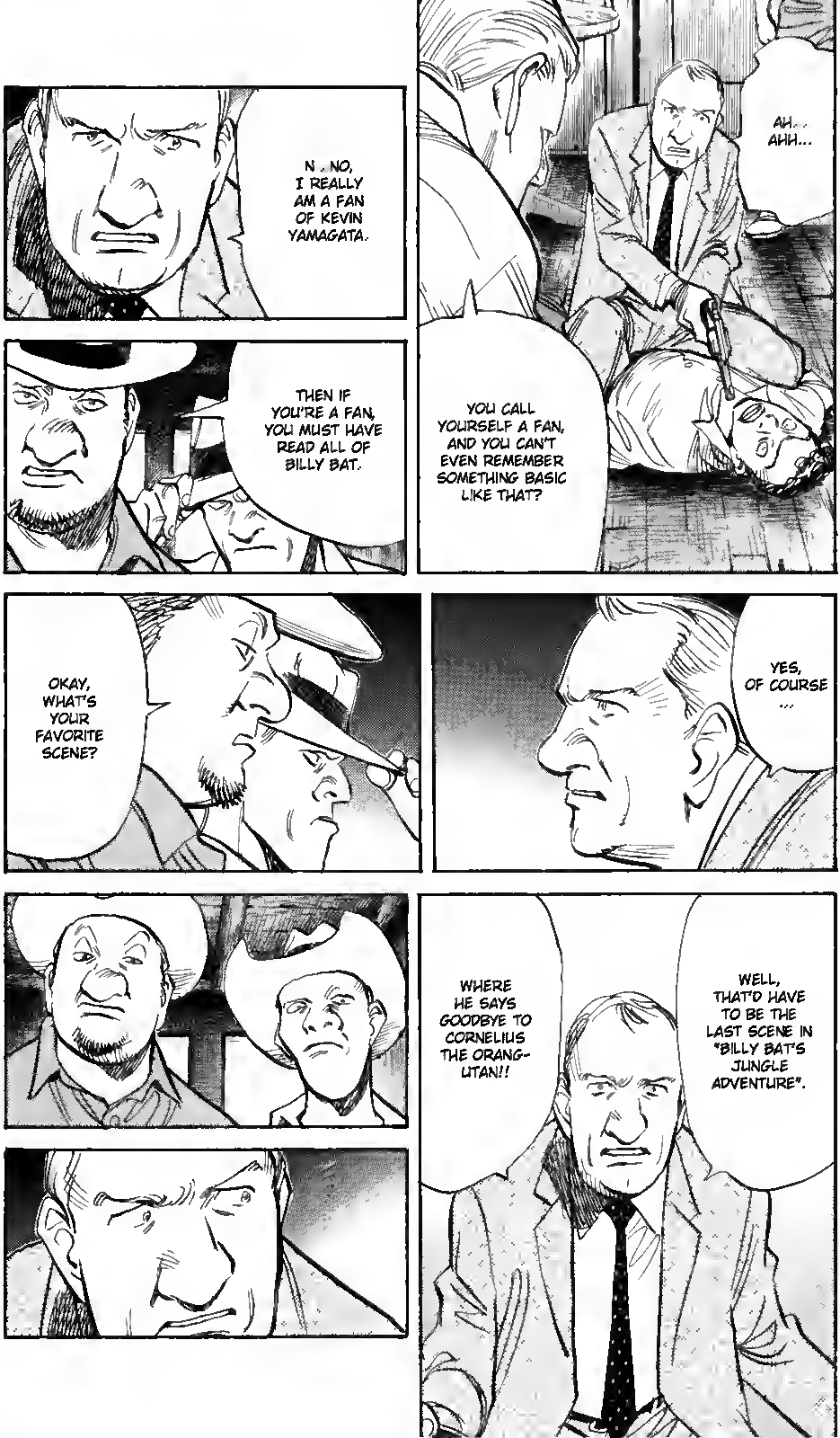
CHAK
YOU PEOPLE...
...IS THAT HOW YOU KILLED KEVIN YAMA-GATA?!
DIS-APPEAR.
IF YOU DISAPPEAR NOW, WE'LL SPARE YOUR LIFE.

BASTARD!!

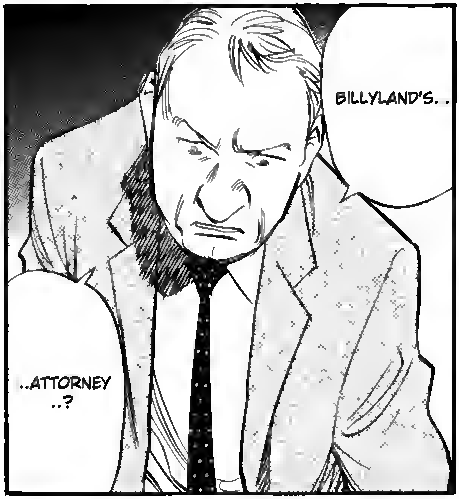
YOU..!!
GET ANY CLOSER AND HE'LL BE WIDE OPEN!!

THE COMIC DRAWN WITH THIS TOWN AS ITS SETTING...
"TEXAS BOUNTY HUNTER: MR. PISTOL HAIR GOES WEST"...
...IT WAS REALLY ENTERTAINING! I BECAME A FAN IMMEDIATELY.
THE MAIN CHARACTER, SHERIFF SABUKICHI...
HE WAS A MAN WHO PROTECTED THE PEACE OF HIS TOWN WITHOUT CARRYING A GUN..!!
THAT SHERIFF WAS A FINE MAN.
BUT LOOK WHAT I FIND WHEN I ACTUALLY GET TO THIS PLACE!!

THIS TOWN IS EXACTLY THE KIND OF PLACE THAT NEEDS SOMEONE LIKE SHERIFF PISTOL HAIR!!
IT'S NOTHING PUT A NEST OF OUTDATED LOWLIFES!!
HE'S A MARSHALL.
HE AIN'T NO SHERIFF.
NO, HE AIN'T.
?
THAT'S RIGHT, SABUKICHI WASN'T A SHERIFF...
YEAH, HE WAS A MARSHALL.
HUH?

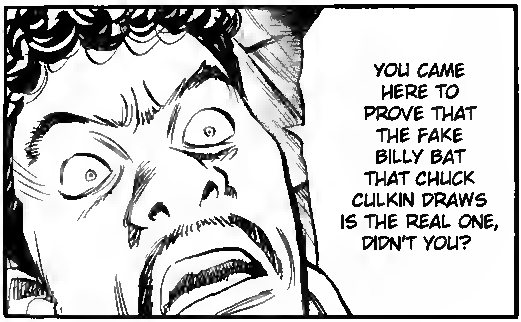

N . NO, I REALLY AM A FAN OF KEVIN YAMAGATA.
AH.. AHH...
THEN IF YOU'RE A FAN, YOU MUST HAVE READ ALL OF BILLY BAT.
YOU CALL YOURSELF A FAN, AND YOU CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER SOMETHING BASIC LIKE THAT?
OKAY, WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SCENE?
YES, OF COURSE ...
WHERE HE SAYS GOODBYE TO CORNELIUS THE ORANG-UTAN!!
WELL, THAT'D HAVE TO BE THE LAST SCENE IN "BILLY BAT'S JUNGLE ADVENTURE".

DAMN STRAIGHT.


BILLYLAND'S. .
..ATTORNEY ..?

IF YOU'RE THAT BIG OF A FAN, THEN WHY ...
WHY ARE YOU ACTING AS BILLYLAND'S ATTORNEY?

THAT HE CAME TO RUB OUT KEVIN'S REAL BILLY FROM THIS WORLD!!

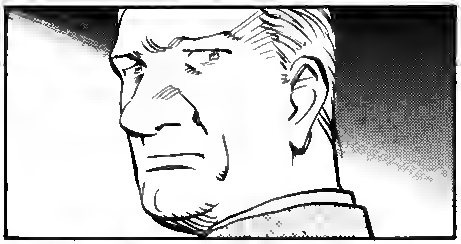

YOU CAME HERE TO PROVE THAT THE FAKE BILLY BAT THAT CHUCK CULKIN DRAWS IS THE REAL ONE, DIDN'T YOU?

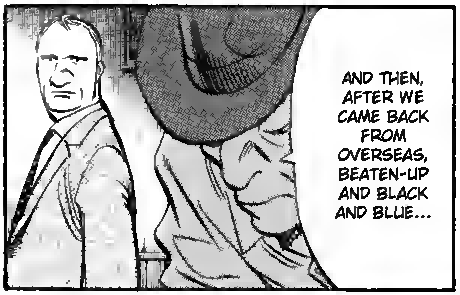
HUH?

I...
I'M NO ATTORNEY.
I WORK FOR A BUREAU OF THE GOVERNMENT.
I CAME TO INFORM KEVIN YAMAGATA...
...THAT HE IS IN DANGER ...
CHAK
THE CHAMBER'S EMPTY...
YOU GUYS..

Texas Bounty Hunter
Mr. PISTOL HAIR
Goes West
"TEXAS BOUNTY HUNTER: MR. PISTOL HAIR GOES WEST".
HE LIVED HERE FOR A BIT WHILE DRAWING IT.

KEVIN DREW A COMIC SET IN THIS TOWN BEFORE THE WAR.



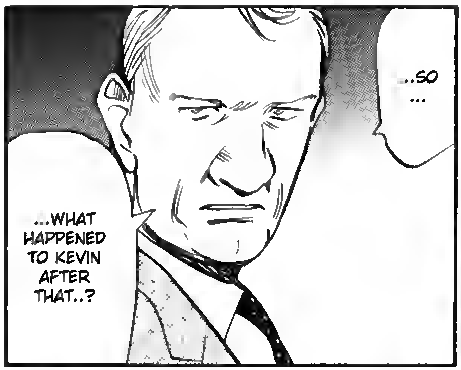

AND THEN, AFTER WE CAME BACK FROM OVERSEAS, BEATEN-UP AND BLACK AND BLUE...

OUR TOWN'S GOT NOTHIN', AND YET HE MADE SUCH A GREAT COMIC OUT OF IT.
THIS COMIC IS OUR PRIDE AND JOY.
Texas Bounty Hunter
Mr. PISTOL HAIR
Goes West

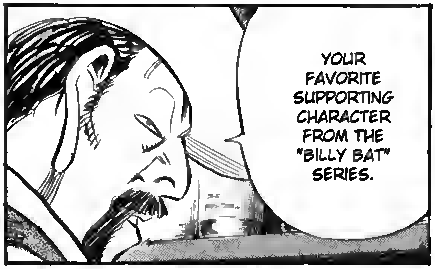
"BILLY BAT".
BILLY BAT

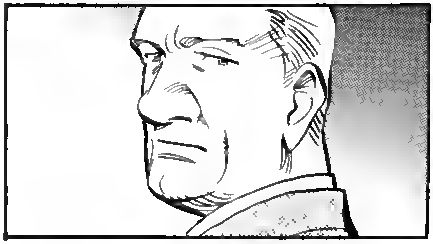
... WE CAME ACROSS ANOTHER COMIC.

BILLY BAT
OUR MAN, KEVIN YAMAGATA!!
AND WE KNEW WHO THE ARTIST WAS THE MINUTE WE SAW IT!!
IT WAS AMAZING.
..AT A CERTAIN POINT, "BILLY BAT" WENT TO THE DOGS.
BUT...
THE ART GOT CRUMMY, AND IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE AUTHOR HAD CHANGED.
AND BEFORE WE KNEW IT, IT TURNED INTO A CARTOON, AND THERE WAS EVEN AN AMUSEMENT PARK BUILT AROUND IT
THE WORLD IS A STRANGE PLACE, THOUGH .. YOU SEE, AS SOON AS THAT HAPPENED, IT GOT EVEN MORE POPULAR.

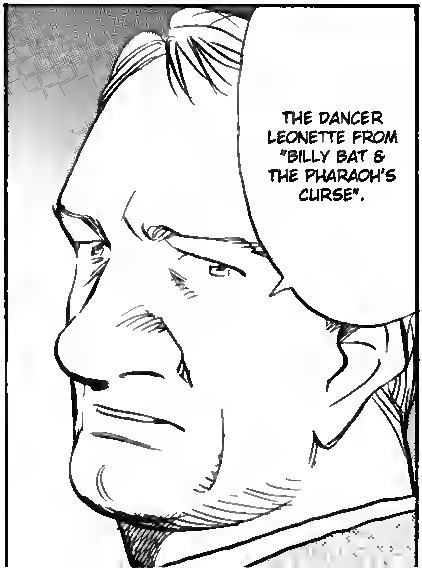

...SO ...
...WHAT HAPPENED TO KEVIN AFTER THAT..?

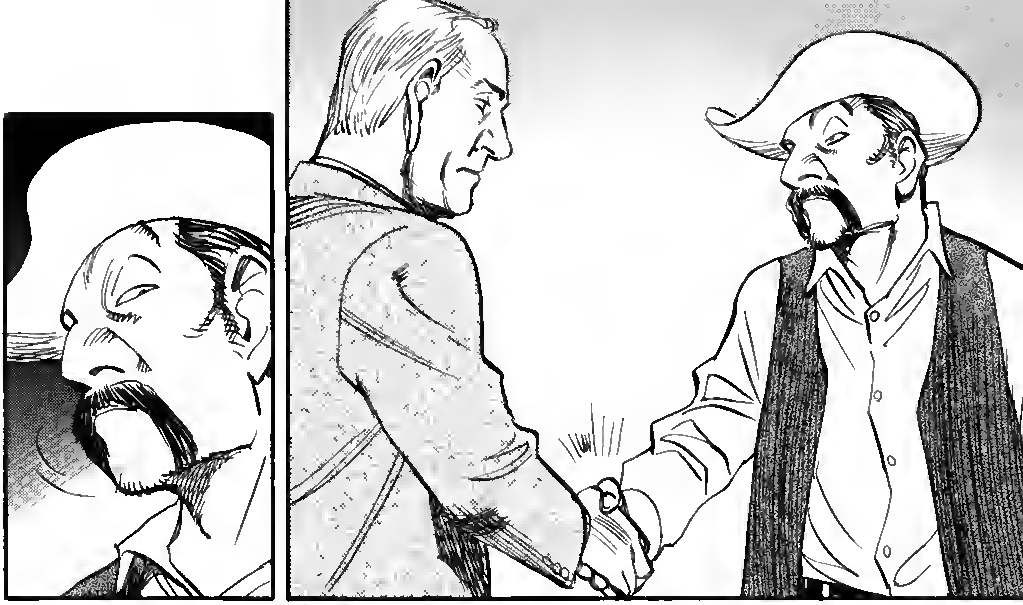
BUT THAT ONE'S A FAKE.

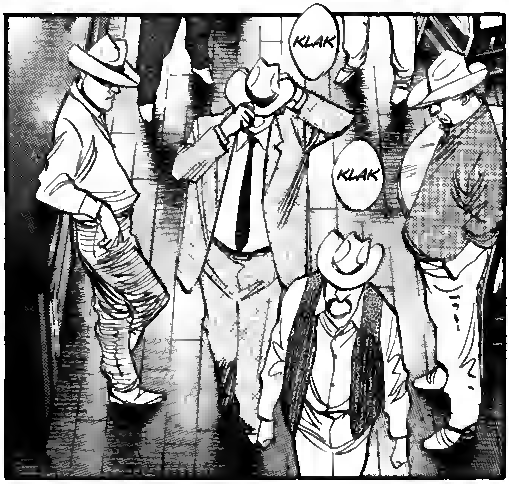

YOUR FAVORITE SUPPORTING CHARACTER FROM THE "BILLY BAT" SERIES.



WHO'S YOUR FAVORITE SUPPORTING CHARACTER?

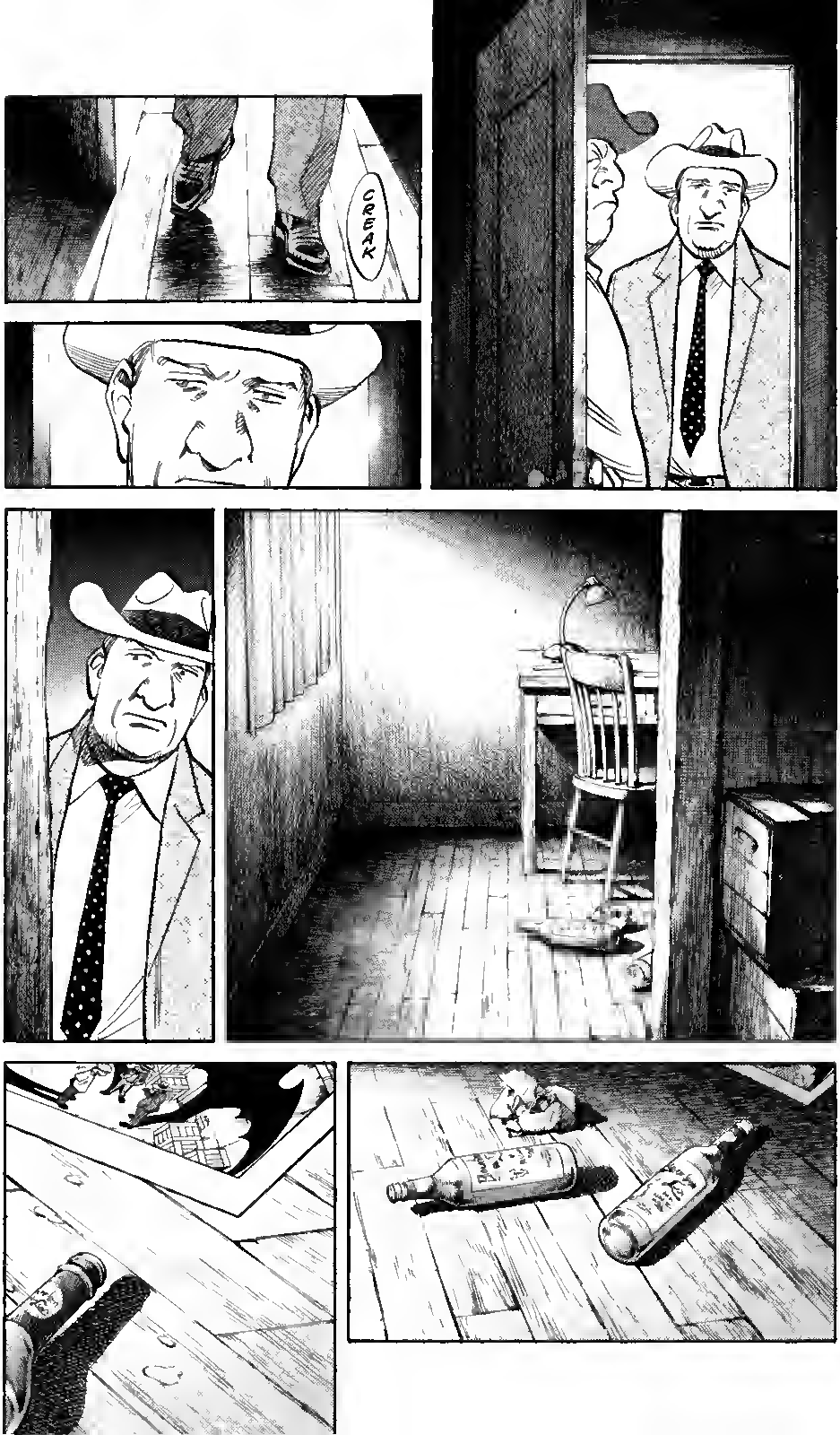

THE DANCER LEONETTE FROM "BILLY BAT & THE PHARAOH'S CURSE".

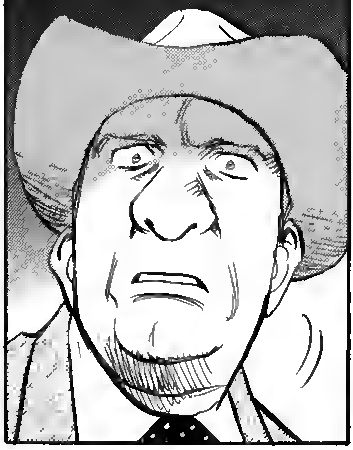



KLAK
KLAK

CREAK

.....

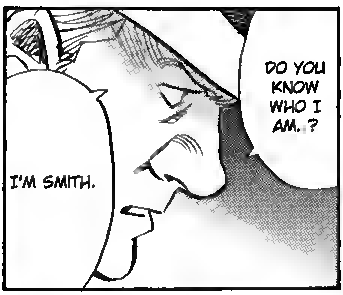

CREAK



KEVIN...
YAMAGATA
..

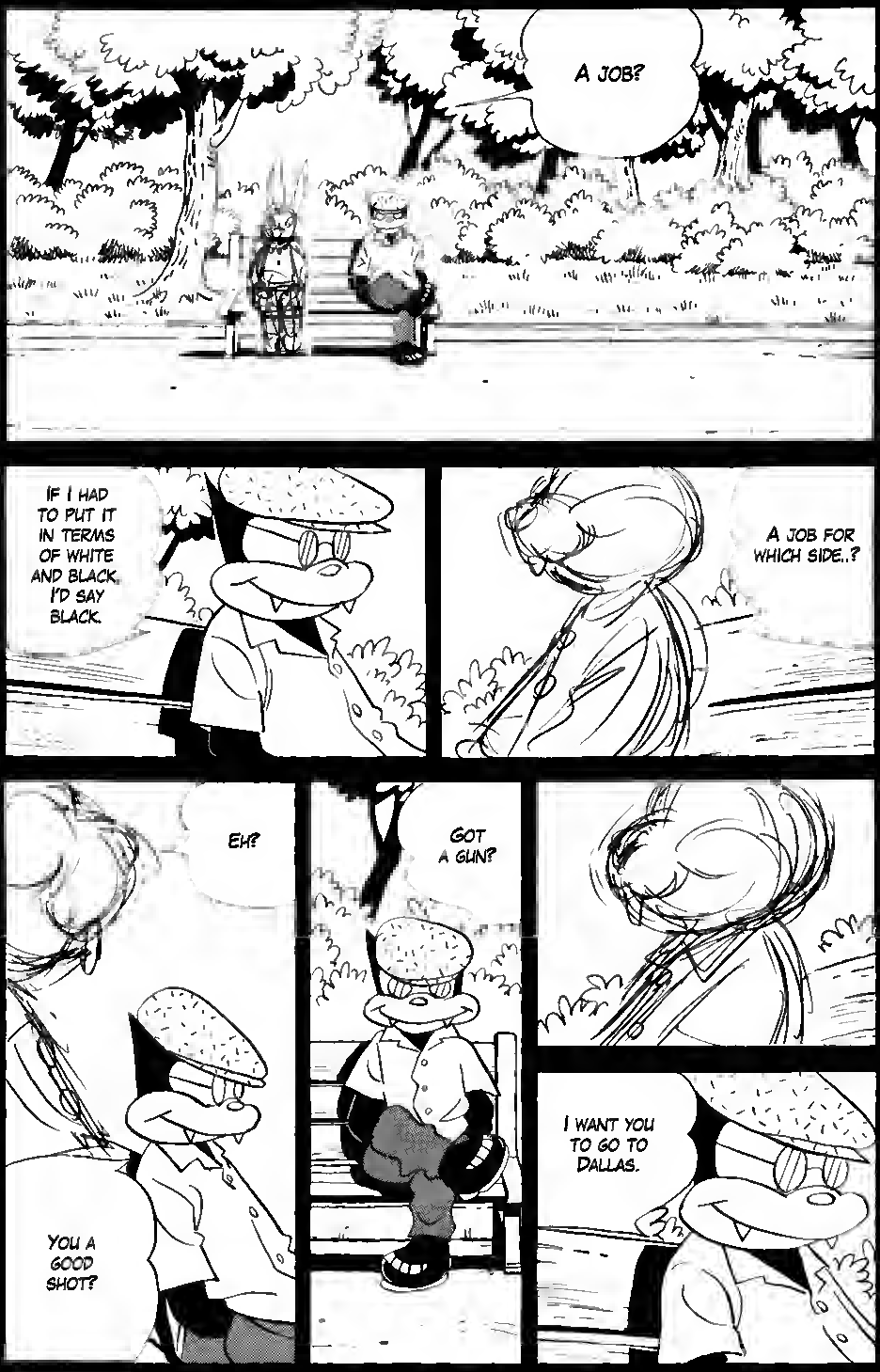
I DON'T WANT TO SEE...

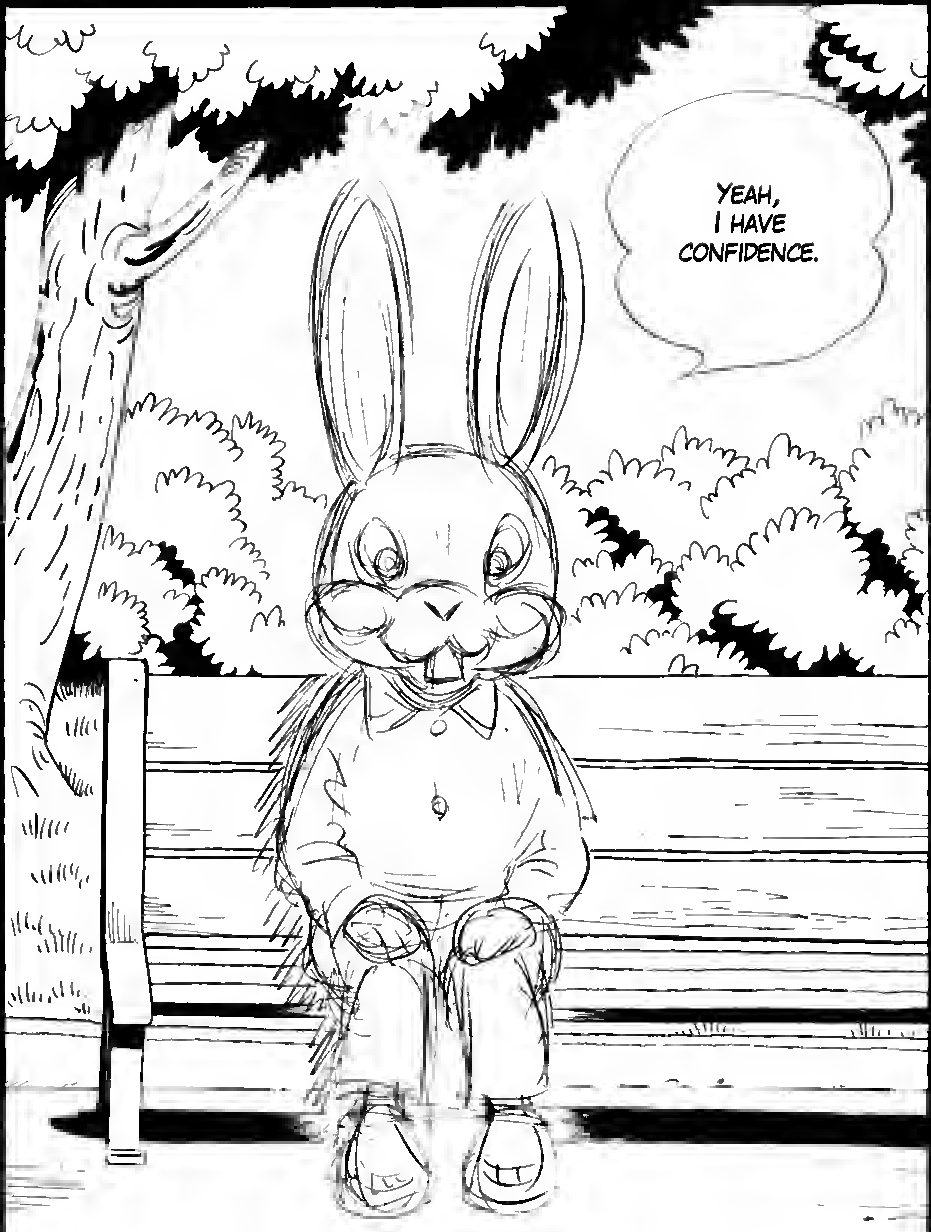
HUH .. WHAT?


DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM. ?
I'M SMITH.

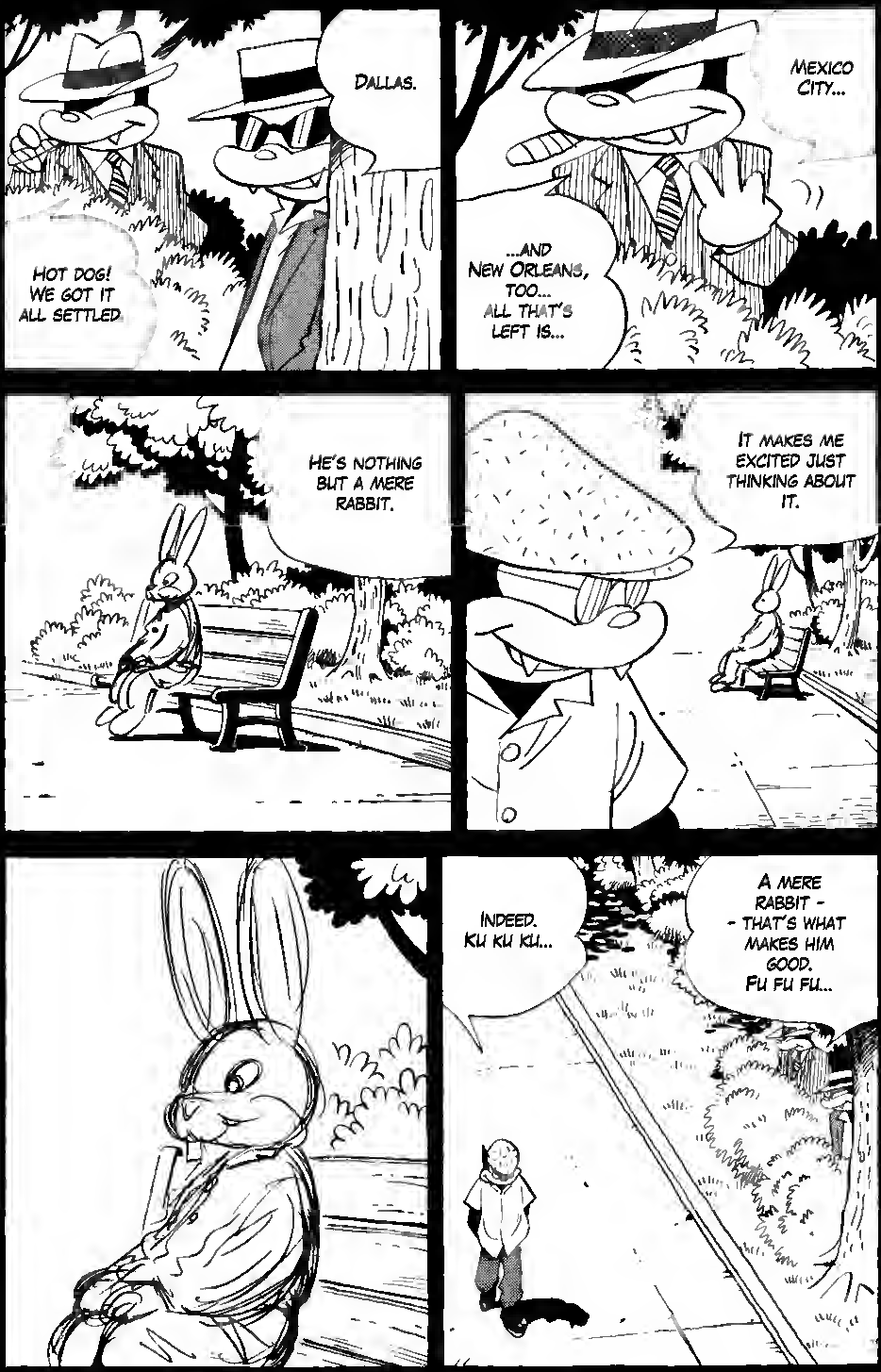
!!!

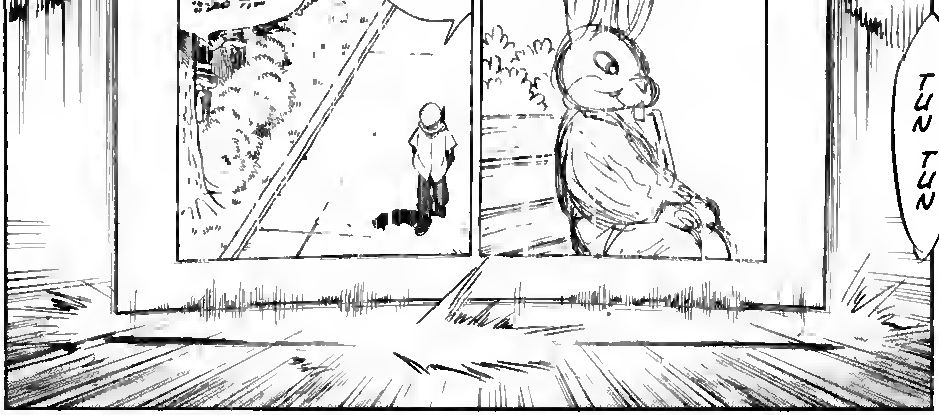
...LEMME DRINK SOME MORE...
SO...
I DON'T WANT TO SEE IT...
WHAT'S THAT?
THE BAT...
I DON'T WANT TO SEE...


A JOB?
IF I HAD TO PUT IT IN TERMS OF WHITE AND BLACK, I'D SAY BLACK.
A JOB FOR WHICH SIDE..?
EH?
GOT A GUN?
YOU A GOOD SHOT?
I WANT YOU TO GO TO DALLAS.


YEAH,
I HAVE
CONFIDENCE.

ALSO, GET A RIFLE.
WELL, PRACTICE SOME MORE.
HOW DID IT GO WITH THE RABBIT?
WE'RE PREPARED TO SET UP THE DUMMIES.
FINE, SORRY IT TOOK SO LONG.


DALLAS.
HOT DOG! WE GOT IT ALL SETTLED.
MEXICO CITY...
...AND NEW ORLEANS, TOO... ALL THAT'S LEFT IS...
HE'S NOTHING BUT A MERE RABBIT.
IT MAKES ME EXCITED JUST THINKING ABOUT IT.
INDEED. KU KU KU...
A MERE RABBIT - - THAT'S WHAT MAKES HIM GOOD. FU FU FU...


TUN TUN

TUN TUN

WAKE UP, KEVIN YAMAGATA.
KEVIN YAMAGATA
KEVIN...

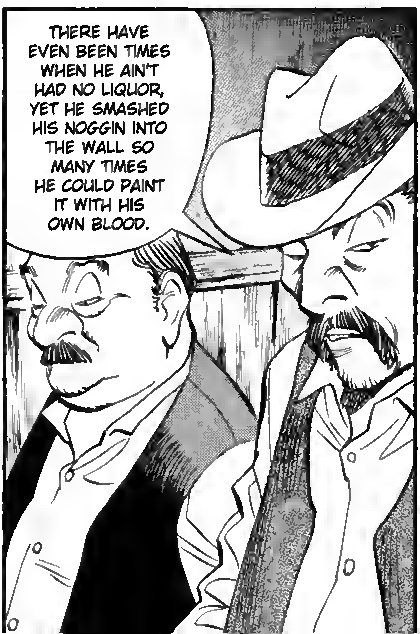
...WAKE ME UP..
DON'T...

...THE BAT...
I DON'T WANT TO SEE..

.. THE BAT?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN..
TELL ME WHAT THE BAT IS.
STOP!!

..IT COMES FOR ME..!!
WHEN I'M SOBER..
GIMME MY BOOZE..!!
GIMME IT BACK ..!!
ENOUGH ALREADY!!
AS LONG AS I'M DRUNK, IT DOESN'T SHOW UP...
LET ME DRINK..!!
IT..?
AS LONG AS I'M DRUNK, THE BAT DOESN'T SHOW UP..!!

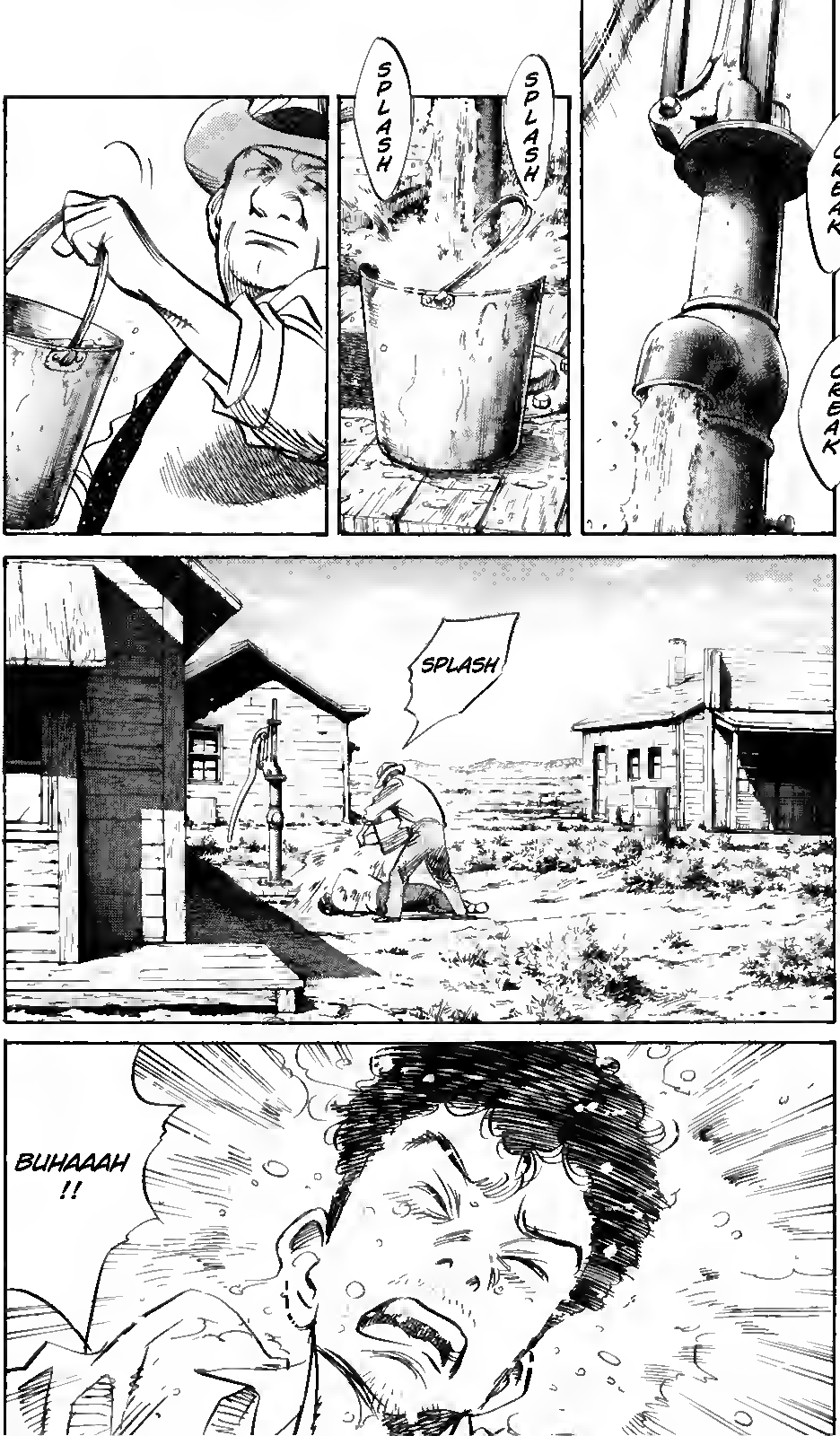
SLUMP
NUOHH
!!


THERE HAVE EVEN BEEN TIMES WHEN HE AIN'T HAD NO LIQUOR, YET HE SMASHED HIS NOGGIN INTO THE WALL SO MANY TIMES HE COULD PAINT IT WITH HIS OWN BLOOD.

WHY DID YOU LET HIM DRINK THIS MUCH?

BECAUSE HE GOES CRAZY WHEN HE'S SOBER...

Fuckin' Bat!!
Ninja
OPEN UP.


SPLASH
SPLASH
CREAK
CREAK
SPLASH
BUHAAAH
!!

WHAT IS THE BAT?
WH...WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
COUGH, COUGH!
GUFUHH !!
TELL ME WHAT THE BAT IS!!
THE BAT ...
DARKNESS AND LIGHT ...
BLACK AND WHITE...

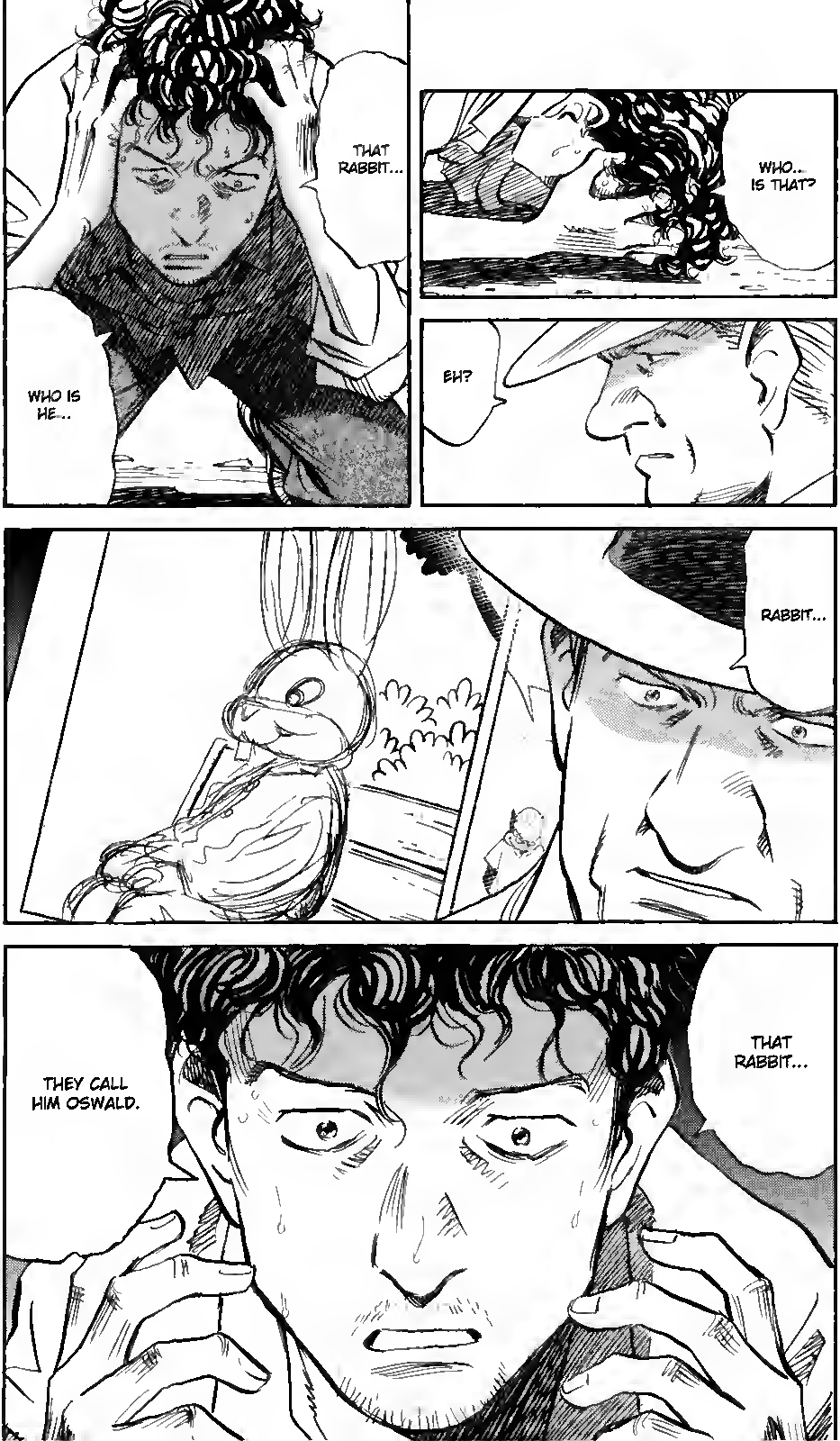
GOOD AND EVIL...
THAT'S WHAT THE BAT IS?
.....
AND YOU CAN SEE THESE BATS? WHICH ONE CAN YOU SEE?
.....
NO... JUST ONE, MAYBE...
TWO..?
WHICH ONE..?
I DON'T KNOW ..
WHICH ONE DO YOU SEE?
THE DARK ONE AND THE LIGHT ONE...

I DON'T KNOW...
IT TRIES TO FORCE ME TO DRAW..
IT MAKES ME DRAW...
JUST WHAT IS THIS BAT...
DRAW WHAT?
DRAW ABOUT THE SHIMOYAMA INCIDENT, FOR EXAMPLE..?

THAT WAS ZOFUU-SENSEI'S WORK!!
NOT THAT!!
ZOFUU-SENSEI...
THE BAT PROBABLY APPEARED BEFORE HIM TOO AND MADE HIM DRAW THAT!!
...AND THIS ZOFUU-SENSEI, HE..?
TOLD ME TO COME BACK TO AMERICA..
THAT I'M THE ONLY ONE..
...WHO CAN STOP IT..

THAT I HAVE TO DRAW THE CONTINUATION ...
...AND YOU STOP IT.
YOU DRAW THE CONT-INUATION, ...
NOOOOOO!!

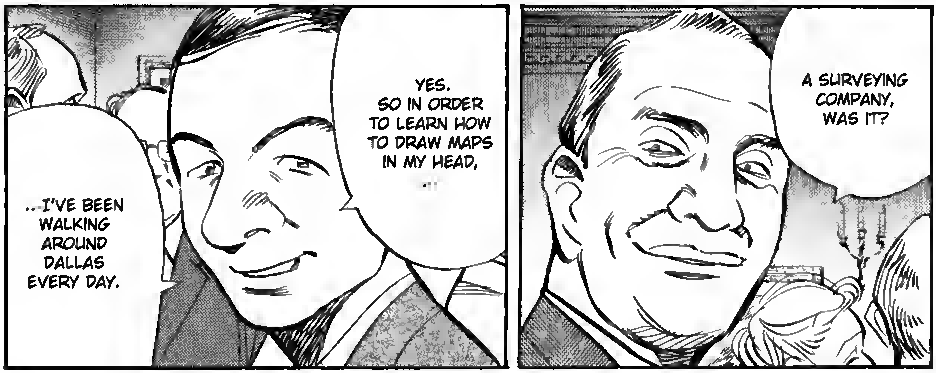
I DON'T WANT TO KNOW!!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANY-MORE!!
.....!!
ABOUT THE BIG BOSS OF THE OIL INDUSTRY AND WEAPONS DEALERS!!
OR ABOUT HOW GOOD A SHOT HE IS!!
HAAH
HAAH
HAAH
DUMMIES!!
BLACKS, WHITES!!

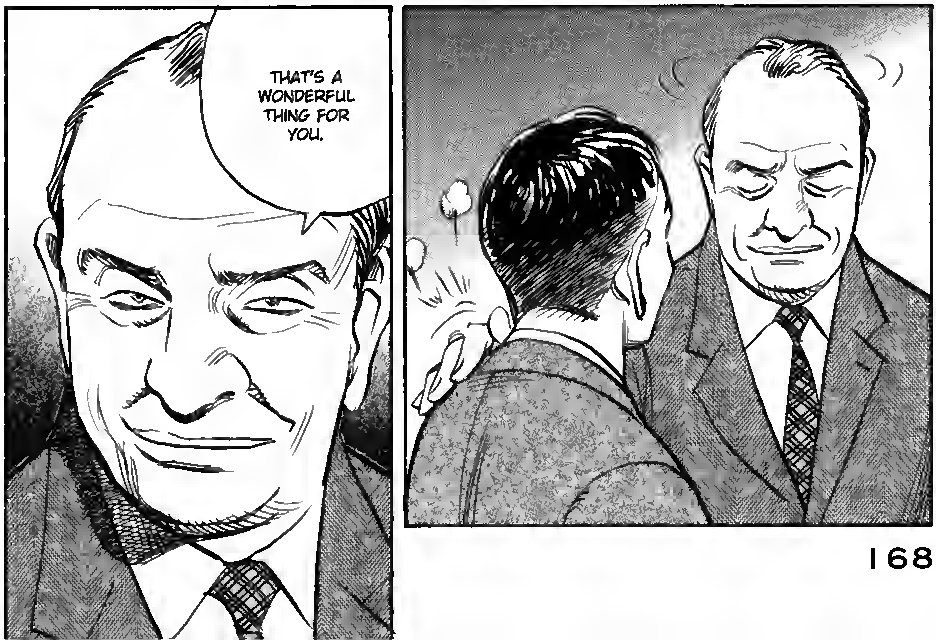

THAT RABBIT...
WHO IS HE...
WHO... IS THAT?
EH?
RABBIT...
THEY CALL HIM OSWALD.
THAT RABBIT...

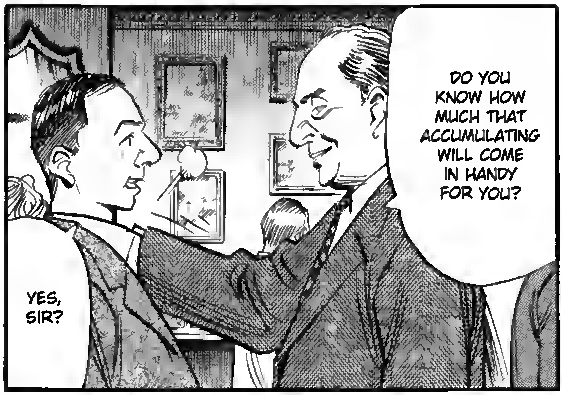
WHO...
OSWALD...
...IS HE?

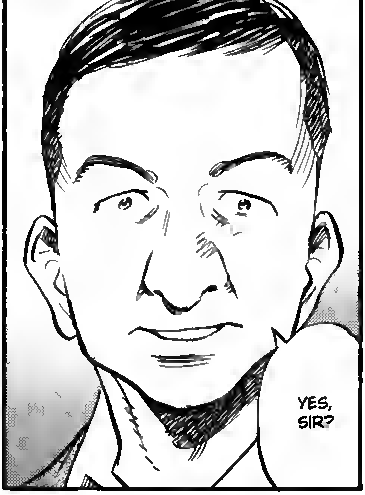
!!
.....
I'M MORENSCHILDT.
MR. OSWALD, I PRESUME?
AH...

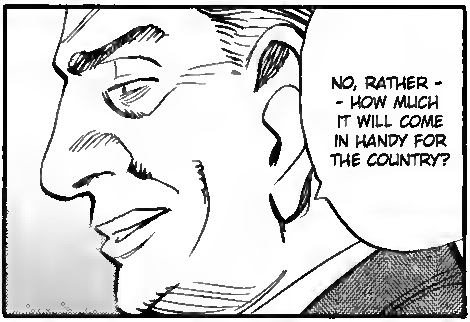
WELCOME TO THE WHITE RUSSIAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY PARTY.
WELL, THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR INVITING ME.
HOW GOES YOUR NEW LIFE HERE? ADJUSTING WELL?
OF COURSE! YOU GOT ME EVERYTHING I NEEDED, EVEN A JOB.

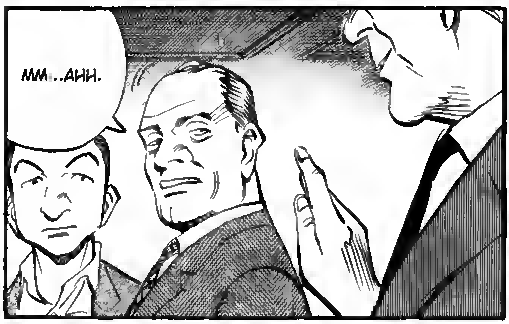

A SURVEYING COMPANY, WAS IT?
YES. SO IN ORDER TO LEARN HOW TO DRAW MAPS IN MY HEAD,
...I'VE BEEN WALKING AROUND DALLAS EVERY DAY.

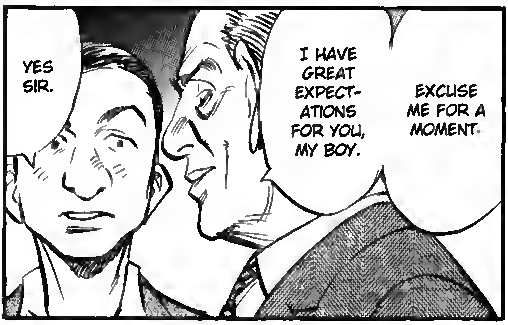

THAT'S A WONDERFUL THING FOR YOU.

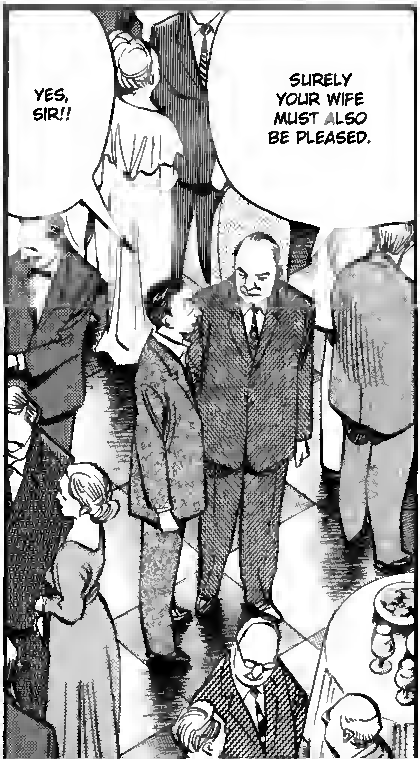

DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH THAT ACCUMULATING WILL COME IN HANDY FOR YOU?
YES, SIR?


YES, SIR?

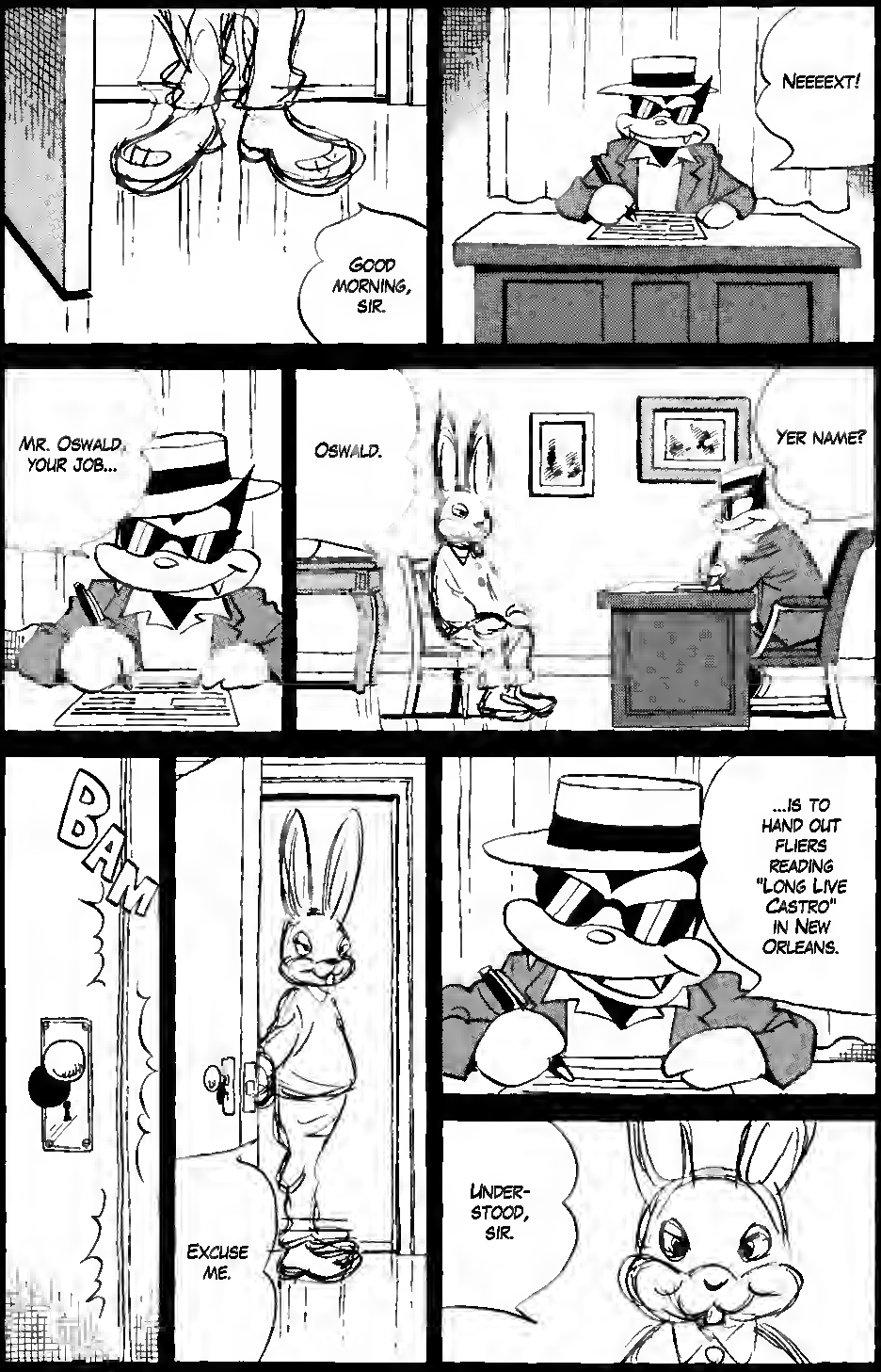

NO, RATHER - - HOW MUCH IT WILL COME IN HANDY FOR THE COUNTRY?

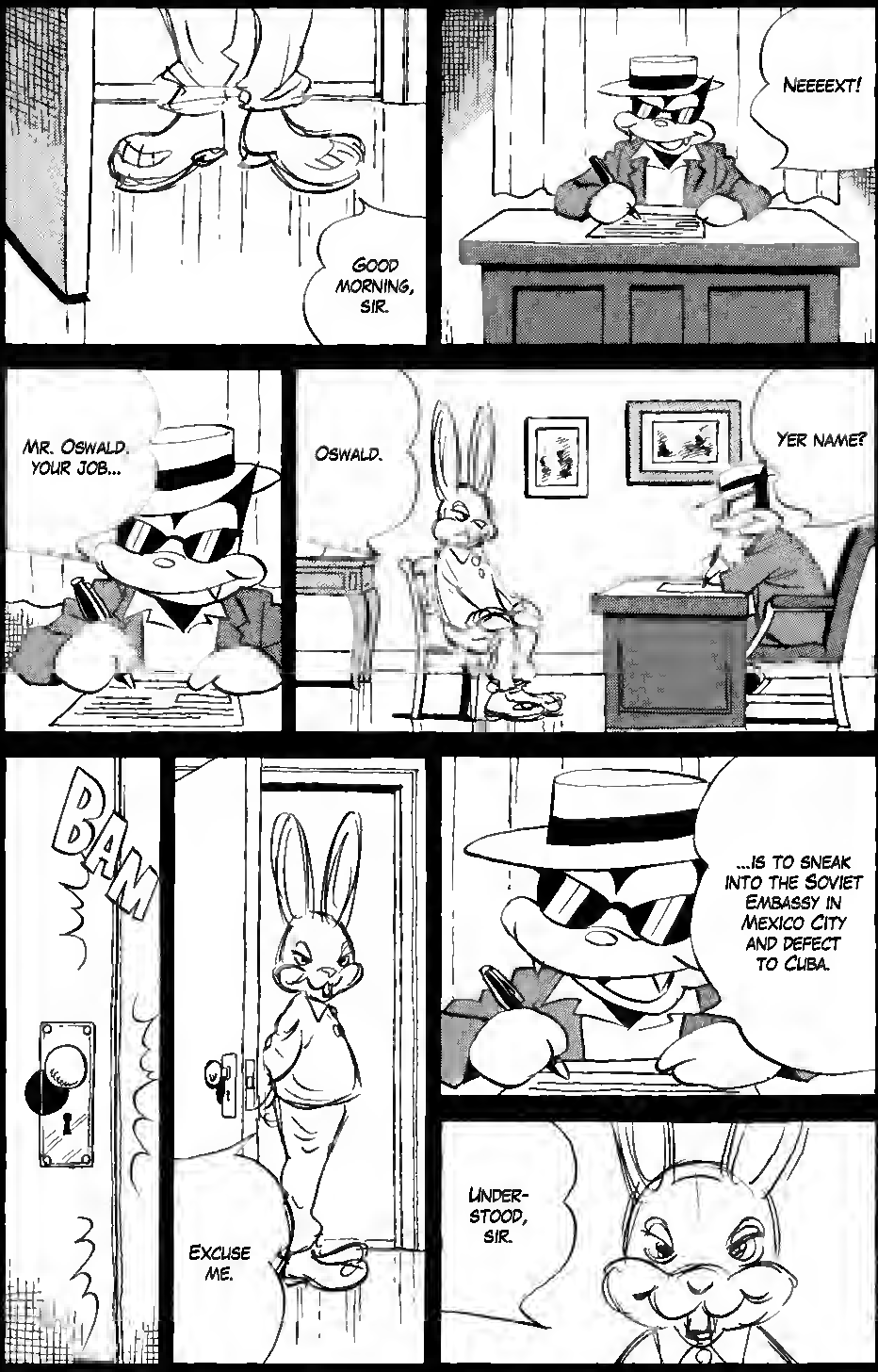

MM...AHH.

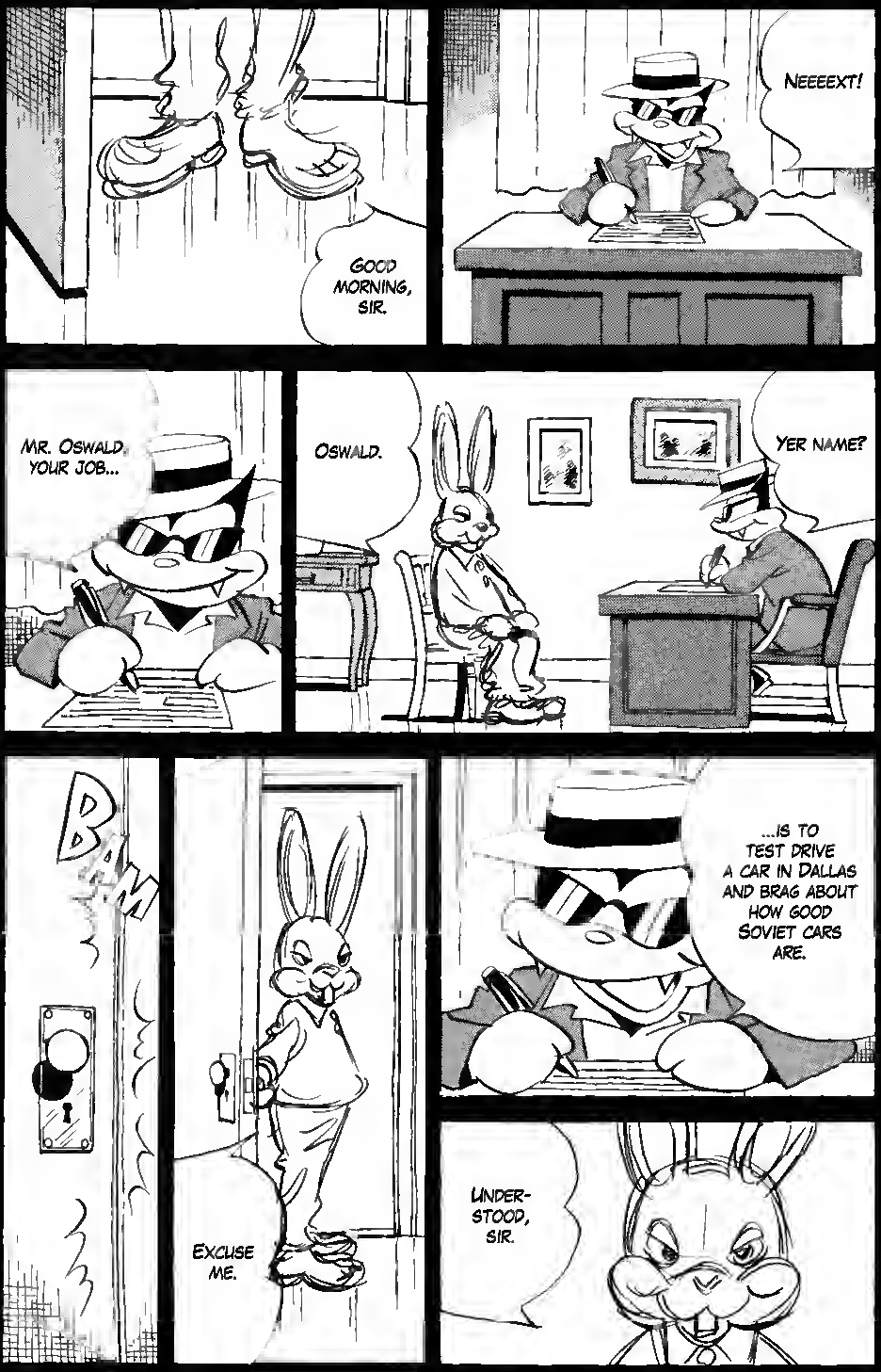

YES SIR.
I HAVE GREAT EXPECT-ATIONS FOR YOU, MY BOY.
EXCUSE ME FOR A MOMENT.

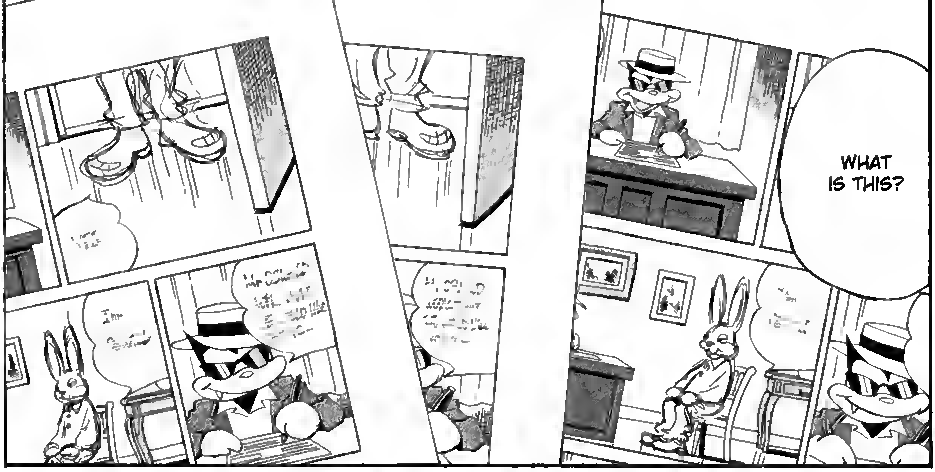

YES, SIR!!
SURELY YOUR WIFE MUST ALSO BE PLEASED.

YOU WILL BECOME A HERO.
MR. OSWALD.


GOOD MORNING, SIR.
NEEEEXT!
MR. OSWALD. YOUR JOB...
OSWALD.
YER NAME?
BAM
EXCUSE ME.
...IS TO HAND OUT FLIERS READING "LONG LIVE CASTRO" IN NEW ORLEANS.
UNDER-STOOD, SIR.

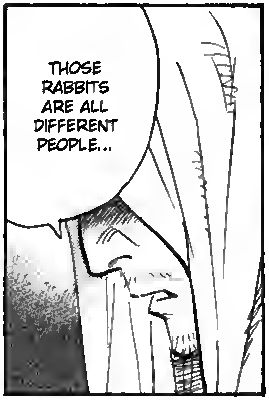

GOOD MORNING, SIR.
NEEEEXT!
MR. OSWALD. YOUR JOB...
OSWALD.
YER NAME?
BAM
EXCUSE ME.
...IS TO SNEAK INTO THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN MEXICO CITY AND DEFECT TO CUBA.
UNDER-STOOD, SIR.


GOOD MORNING, SIR.
NEEEEXT!
MR. OSWALD, YOUR JOB...
OSWALD.
YER NAME?
BAM
EXCUSE ME.
...IS TO TEST DRIVE A CAR IN DALLAS AND BRAG ABOUT HOW GOOD SOVIET CARS ARE.
UNDER-STOOD, SIR.


WHAT IS THIS?

YOU'VE DRAWN THE SAME PAGE OVER AND OVER ...

THEY AREN'T THE SAME.


THOSE RABBITS ARE ALL DIFFERENT PEOPLE...

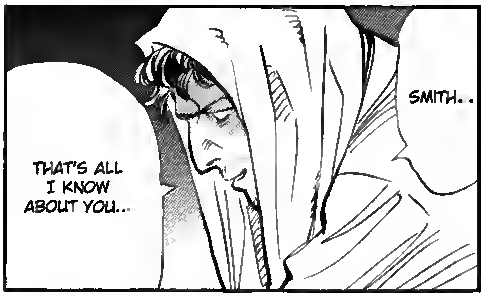
WELL, THAT'S TRUE, BUT...

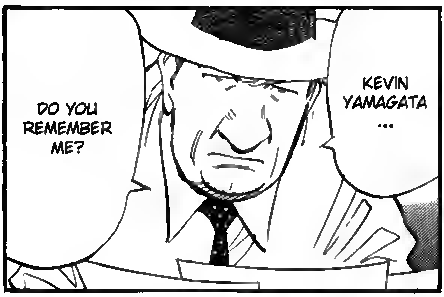
THE LINES ARE DIFFERENT...
THEY LOOK EXACTLY THE SAME TO ME..

CHAPTER 35 AN OSWALD DOSE OF JOY

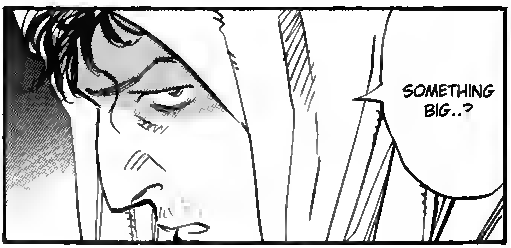
DUMMIES ...
IS THAT WHAT THE BAT TOLD YOU?

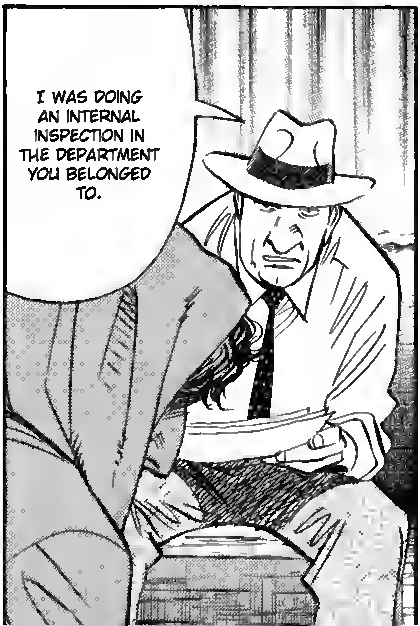
.....


SMITH..
THAT'S ALL I KNOW ABOUT YOU...

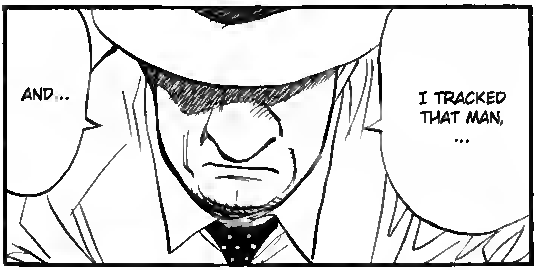

KEVIN YAMAGATA ...
DO YOU REMEMBER ME?

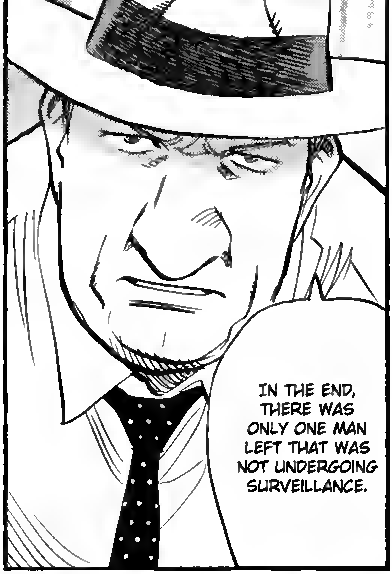
MY DEPARTMENT AND ANOTHER WERE PLANNING SOMETHING BIG TOGETHER.


SOMETHING BIG..?

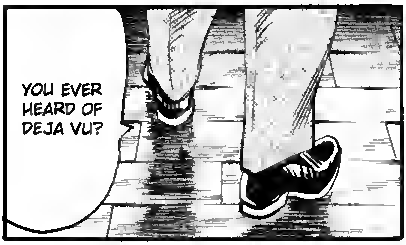

I WAS DOING AN INTERNAL INSPECTION IN THE DEPARTMENT YOU BELONGED TO.

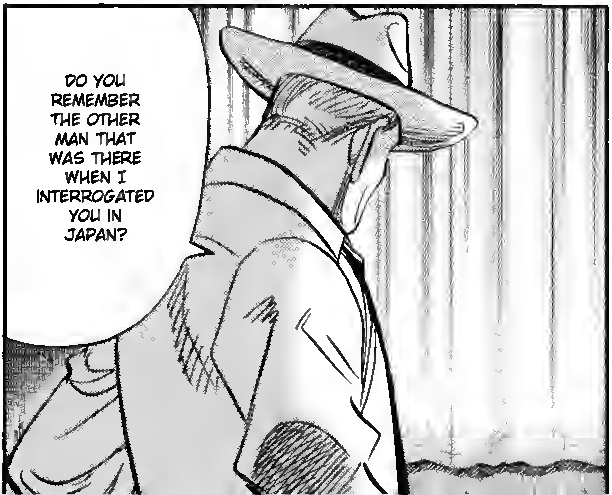
HOO...
?
YEAH... SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS, ONE MIGHT SAY.
A STORY THAT CRAZY HAS GOT TO BE ABOUT THE SOVIETS' PLOTTING!
AM I WRONG? SPIES ARE GONNA COME IN HERE ANY MINUTE, RIGHT?
YOUR NAME IS JUST SMITH...
..AND YOU BELONG TO A DEPARTMENT THAT IS PLANNING SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS..
YOUR STORY IS FULL OF BLANKS AND IMPOSSIBLE TO UNDERSTAND.
I'VE SEARCHED OUT CITIZENS WITH CONNECTIONS TO THE SOVIETS ONE BY ONE.
FIRST COMES SPY INVESTIGATION.
.....
YES, YOU'RE RIGHT.


I TRACKED THAT MAN, ...
AND...


IN THE END, THERE WAS ONLY ONE MAN LEFT THAT WAS NOT UNDERGOING SURVEILLANCE.

AND... AND THEN WHAT?


YOU EVER HEARD OF DEJA VU?

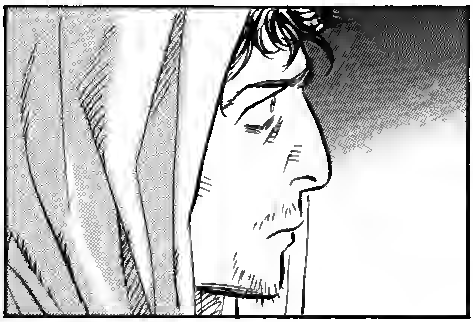

DO YOU REMEMBER THE OTHER MAN THAT WAS THERE WHEN I INTERROGATED YOU IN JAPAN?

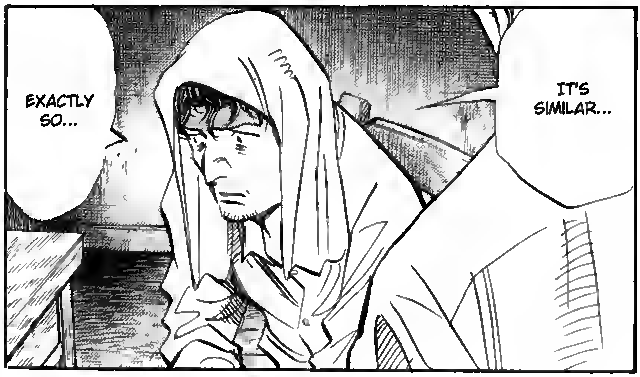
YEAH, IT'S WHEN YOU FEEL WHATEVER YOU'RE EXPERIENCING ALREADY HAPPENED ONCE BEFORE...

Y...YEAH, I THINK HIS NAME WAS FINNEY OR SOMETHING...
...IS SEARCHING FOR THE SAME MAN I AM TRACKING.
YES, THAT FINNEY..
AND SO, AS I WAS ABOUT TO EMBARK, I SPOTTED THIS AT A NEWSSTAND..
...YOUR NEWEST WORK.
The Adventures of BILLY BAT
PLUS

WHY WOULD AN ARTIST CREATE A STORY LIKE THIS, OUT OF ALL THINGS..?
IT'S A COMIC FILLED WITH BIZARRE CONTENTS.
PRIZES
The Adventures of BILLY BAT
PR
...BILLY BAT - - AND MAKE HIM THE MAIN CHARACTER...
AND NOT ONLY THAT, BUT CHOOSE A CHARACTER THAT'S ALREADY WELL-KNOWN ...
YES, IT'S EXACTLY THE SAME.
N ..NO, THAT'S...
IT'S EXACTLY LIKE WHAT THAT JAPANESE ARTIST ZOFULU DID...
BILLY BAT

THE SAME AS WHEN THE SHIMOYAMA INCIDENT OCCURRED IN JAPAN..!!




EXACTLY SO...
IT'S SIMILAR...

YOU'RE RIGHT...
YES...

THAT'S WHY...
THAT'S WHY I HATE THIS...
LIKE A CONTINUATION...
I'M AFRAID TO DRAW...
BUT I...
ZOFUU-SENSEI DREW IT...
IT'S...
COMING...
I DON'T WANT TO KNOW...

IT..?
IT'S COMING TO ME...

AAAAAAAAAAAAHHH!!
AAAAAAAAAAAAHHH!!
WHAT'S WRONG? GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF!!
HA-HA-
CALM DOWN, I WON'T DO ANYTHING TO YOU!!
AAAAAAA-AHHHHH!!

I'LL BE GOING NOW.

UMM... OSWALD...

BE CAREFUL.

HM? WHAT IS IT?

AH... I KNEW IT, IT MUST HAVE BEEN SOMEONE ELSE.

EH? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

...GET INTO A FIGHT AGAIN?

DID YOU..

...AND IT CAUSED A BIG UPROAR..
...AND SAID YOU GOT INTO A FIGHT WITH AN AUTO DEALER ON KINGS ROAD, ..
WHAT? WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
A FRIEND I MADE FROM THE WRFS, ANNA, GAVE ME A CALL...
I KNOW ...
I'VE NEVER EVEN BEEN TO ANY AUTO DEALER ON KINGS ROAD.
ME..?
YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT..
I'M SERIOUS, IT'S GOTTA BE SOMEONE ELSE.
UH-HUH ...
SEE YOU LATER.

Golden Cola
PSSH
golden cola
AH...
GULP GULP
AH! MR. REYNOLDS!
ARE YOU THE NEW GUY, OSWALD?

THAT WAS A LOUSY THING FOR YOU TO DO, Y'KNOW.
WHAT WAS?

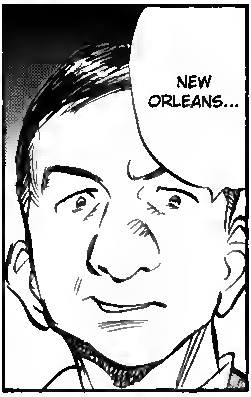
HUH..?
WE'RE CONNECTED TO THE NATIONAL MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT, Y'KNOW, SO THERE'S THINGS YOU CAN DO AND THERE'RE THINGS YOU JUST CAN'T.

I SAW YA, PAL.
BUT I WON'T TELL THE GUYS UPSTAIRS, SO JUST DON'T DO IT AGAIN.

ENOUGH WITH THE FUNNY BUSINESS, PAL!
I WAS IN NEW ORLEANS ON A BUSINESS TRIP YESTERDAY.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

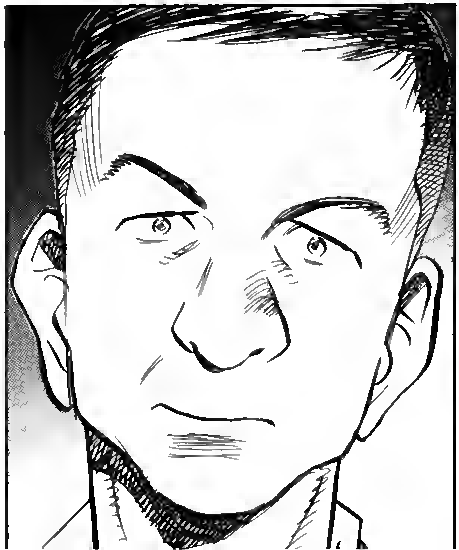
I SAW YOU HANDING OUT THOSE CASTRO SUPPORT FLIERS ON THE STREET!


NEW ORLEANS...

OH REALLY?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I WAS HERE IN DALLAS YESTERDAY... I CAME TO WORK LIKE USUAL!
REALLY!!

PLEASE, LOOK AT MY TIME CARD! IF I HAD GONE TO NEW ORLEANS MY TIME CARD WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN PUNCHED!!

.. SO I SPENT A LOT OF TIME OUTSIDE, BUT...
I WAS TOLD TO MAKE IT SO I COULD DRAW A MAP OF DALLAS IN MY HEAD, ...

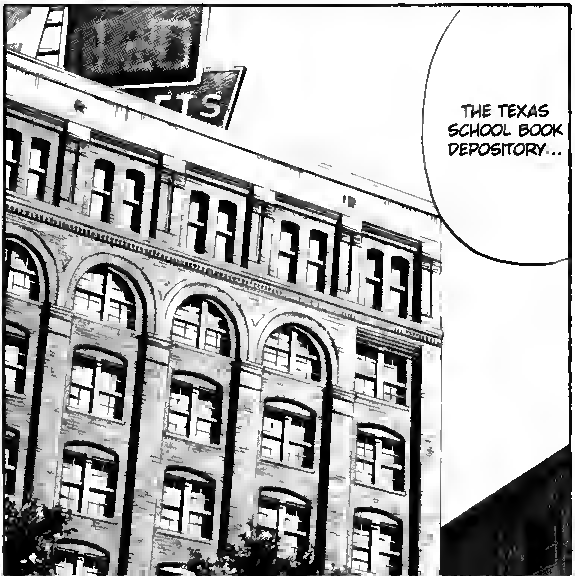


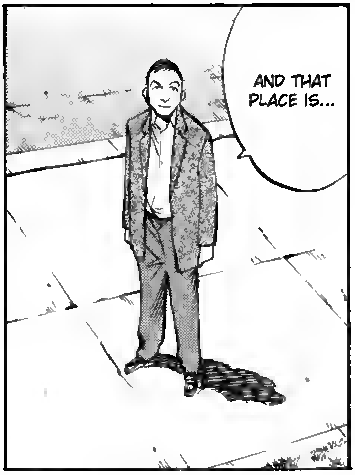
...DO YOU HAVE A TWIN..?
WELL IN THAT CASE..

ERTZ
T A CAR

..AND THAT'S ELM STREET.

THIS IS MAIN STREET ...


THE TEXAS SCHOOL BOOK DEPOSITORY...


AND THAT PLACE IS...

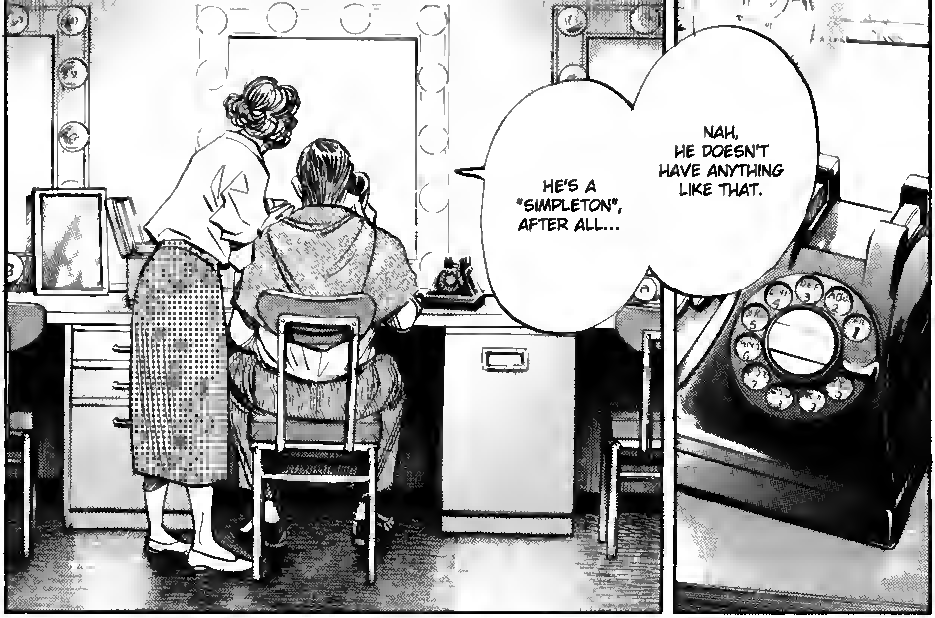
'SCUSE ME, SIR!
HUH?
YOUR CHANGE.
THIS IS TOO MUCH FOR A TIP. YOU FORGET YOUR CHANGE?
YOU WERE STARING OUT AT ELM STREET FROM INSIDE THAT CAFE, RIGHT?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT..?

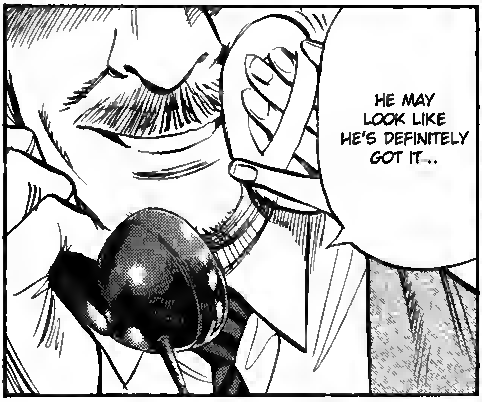
AH...NO, W...WAIT A MINUTE!!
HERE'S YOUR CHANGE.
TH...THIS ISN'T MINE.
SO I CAN'T ACCEPT IT.
REALLY, I'VE NEVER EVEN BEEN INSIDE THAT CAFE.
YOU KNOW ABOUT DOPPEL-GANGERS?

A PHENOMENON WHERE THE SAME PERSON APPEARS TWICE IN DIFFERENT PLACES AT THE SAME TIME
DOPPEL...
GANGER...
AND DO YOU KNOW WHAT KINDA PEOPLE THAT HAPPENS TO?
THAT MUSTA BEEN IT.
NO...
N-NO, IT CAN'T BE...
DOPPELGANGERS HAPPEN TO PEOPLE WHO CARRY GREAT AMBITION

YOU'RE GOING TO BECOME A HERO!!

YES... WE FOUND HIM.
OSWALD IS IN DALLAS
THAT'S RIGHT.
IN DALLAS
THE SCROLL ...
WE ARE STILL INVESTIGATING WHETHER OR NOT HE HAS THE SCROLL. HOWEVER


HE'S A "SIMPLETON", AFTER ALL...
NAH, HE DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

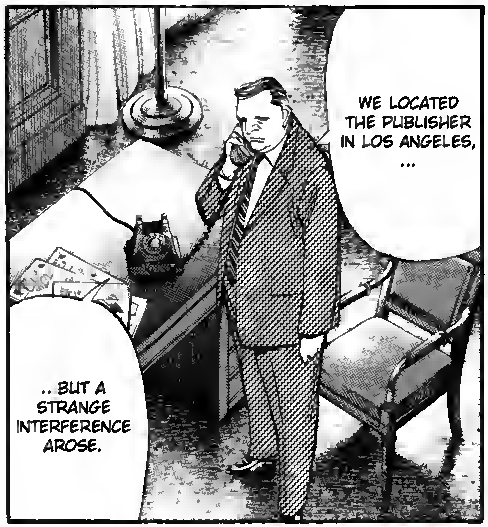

HE MAY LOOK LIKE HE'S DEFINITELY GOT IT...

THAT'S RIGHT.
A "SIMPLETON" SIR..?

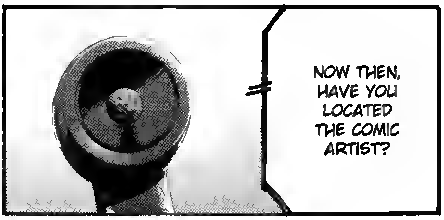
MORE IMPORTANTLY ...
...BUT THAT'S THE TYPE OF PERSON HE IS.

WAACHOO!!
THE YOU-KNOW-WHOS..

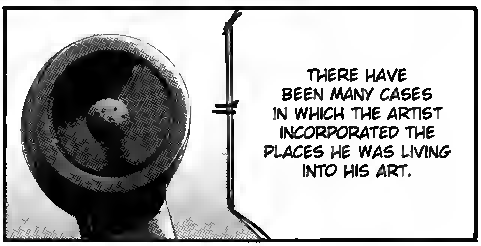
THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE YOU-KNOW-WHOS MAY BE CONTROLLING HIM.

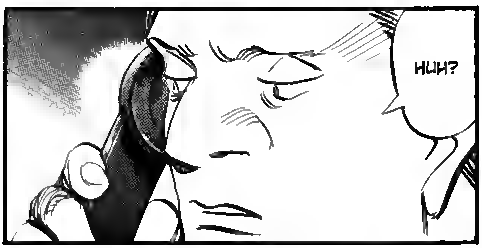

WE LOCATED THE PUBLISHER IN LOS ANGELES, ...
.. BUT A STRANGE INTERFERENCE AROSE.

DO YOU HAVE A COLD?
NO... JUST GETTING MY MAKEUP DONE.

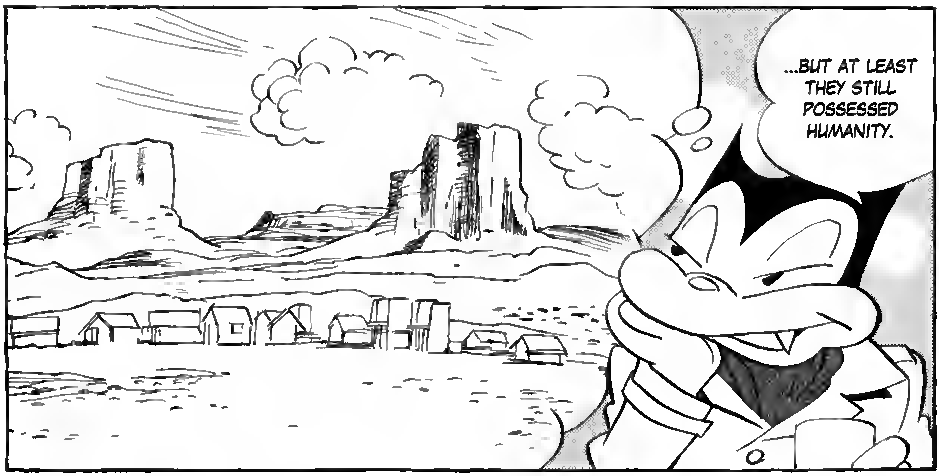

NOW THEN, HAVE YOU LOCATED THE COMIC ARTIST?

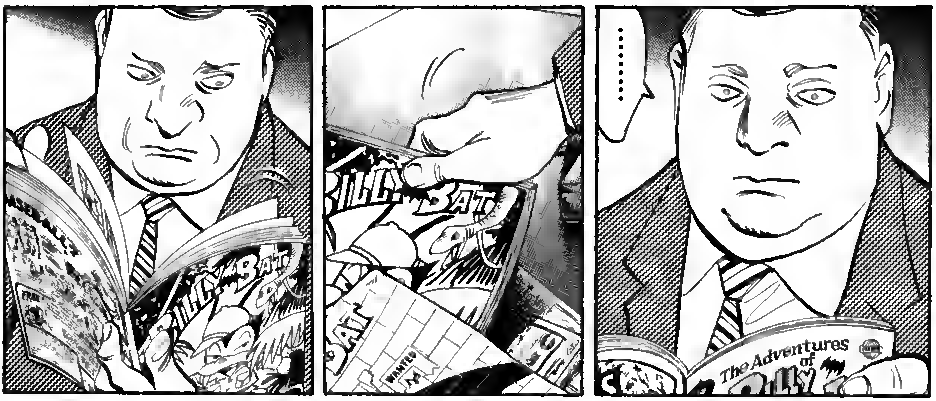
HE HAS A TENDENCY TO PUT HIS SURROUNDINGS IN HIS COMICS.


THERE HAVE BEEN MANY CASES IN WHICH THE ARTIST INCORPORATED THE PLACES HE WAS LIVING INTO HIS ART.


HUH?

.....
GA-CHAK
IN ANY CASE, SEARCH OUT THE WHEREABOUTS OF THAT ARTIST BEFORE YOU DEAL WITH OSWALD.
IS THAT SO...
BAT
The Adventures of Bat Boy
YEAH, THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING IN THAT DESERT TOWN I VISITED ONCE UPON A TIME...
YOU'RE PULLIN' MY LEG.
THIS TOWN IS A HARDER PLACE TO LIVE IN THAN THE DESERT!

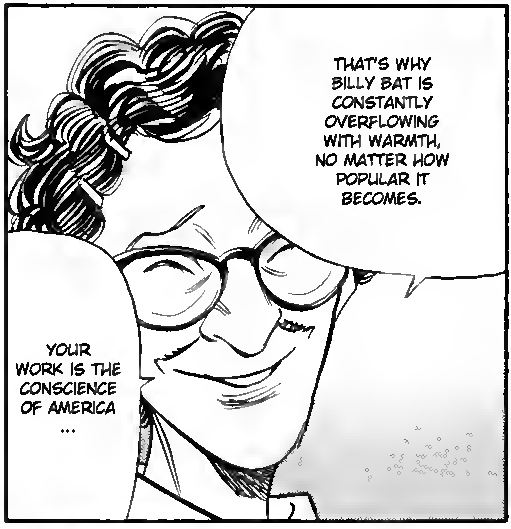

...BUT AT LEAST THEY STILL POSSESSED HUMANITY.


.....
The Adventures of

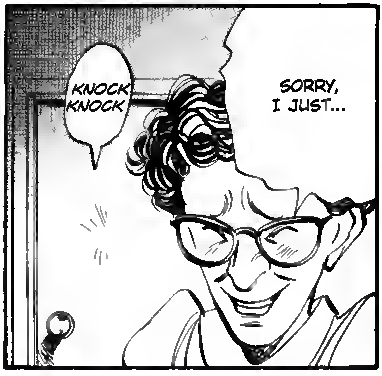
Texas Bounty Hunter
Mr. PISTOL HAIR
Goes West
!!

CHAPTER 36 AN ANNUNCIATION TO THE "SIMPLETON"

HOW WONDERFUL.
"A TENDENCY TO PUT ONE'S SURROUNDINGS IN HIS COMICS ..."


YOUR WORK IS THE CONSCIENCE OF AMERICA ...
THAT'S WHY BILLY BAT IS CONSTANTLY OVERFLOWING WITH WARMTH, NO MATTER HOW POPULAR IT BECOMES.

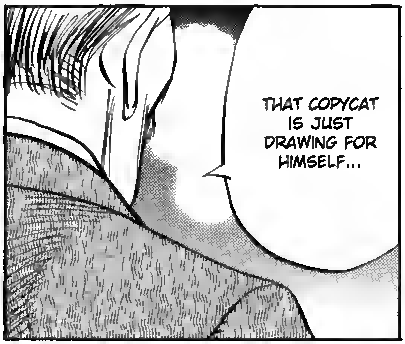
THAT'S JUST HOW I FELT AFTER HEARING THE SECRET TO THE BIRTH OF YOUR COMICS.
HMM?


KNOCK KNOCK
SORRY, I JUST...

IT'S ALRIGHT, KATE. I APPRECIATE YOUR WORDS.
OH, I'M SORRY! I DIDN'T MEAN TO LISTEN IN ON YOUR CONVER-SATION..!!

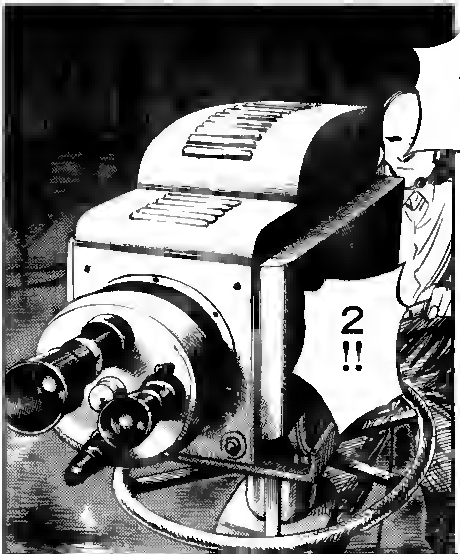
ALRIGHT, LET'S GO!!
AH... YOUR NECKTIE ...
TIME'S UP!!
STUDIO A
KLAK
KLAK
WHAT A PICKLE THIS IS.
YOU GOT YOUR ATTORNEY MOVING, RIGHT?
ESPECIALLY THE YOUNG ONES...
I'M SURE MY READERS WILL BE ABLE TO DISCERN THE REAL ONE
WELL? DID YOU FIND THE ARTIST OF THE FAKE BILLY YET?
KLAK
NOT QUITE.
KLAK
KLAK

BUT I'M ALWAYS TALKING WITH BILLY AND DRAWING HIM FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHILDREN.


THAT COPYCAT IS JUST DRAWING FOR HIMSELF...

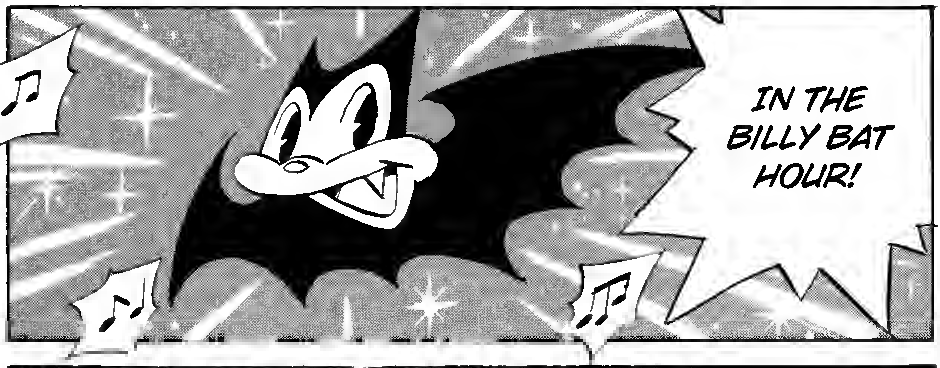
GOING ON AIR!!

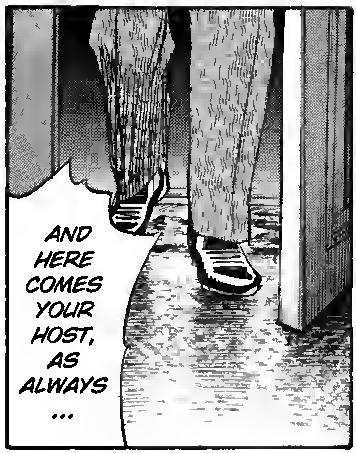
FANTASTIC..!!

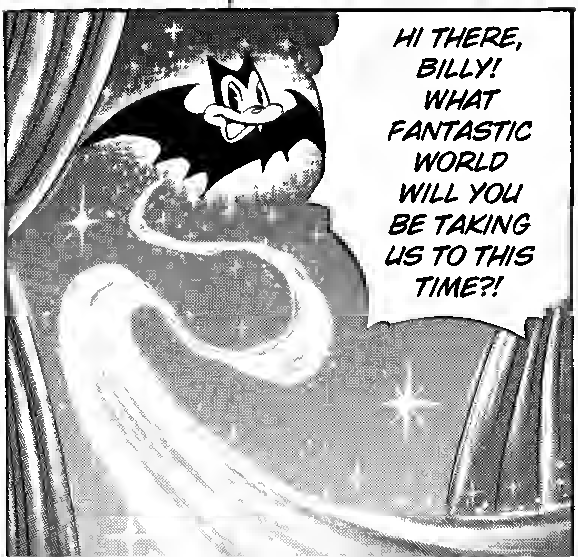

3 !!
2 !!

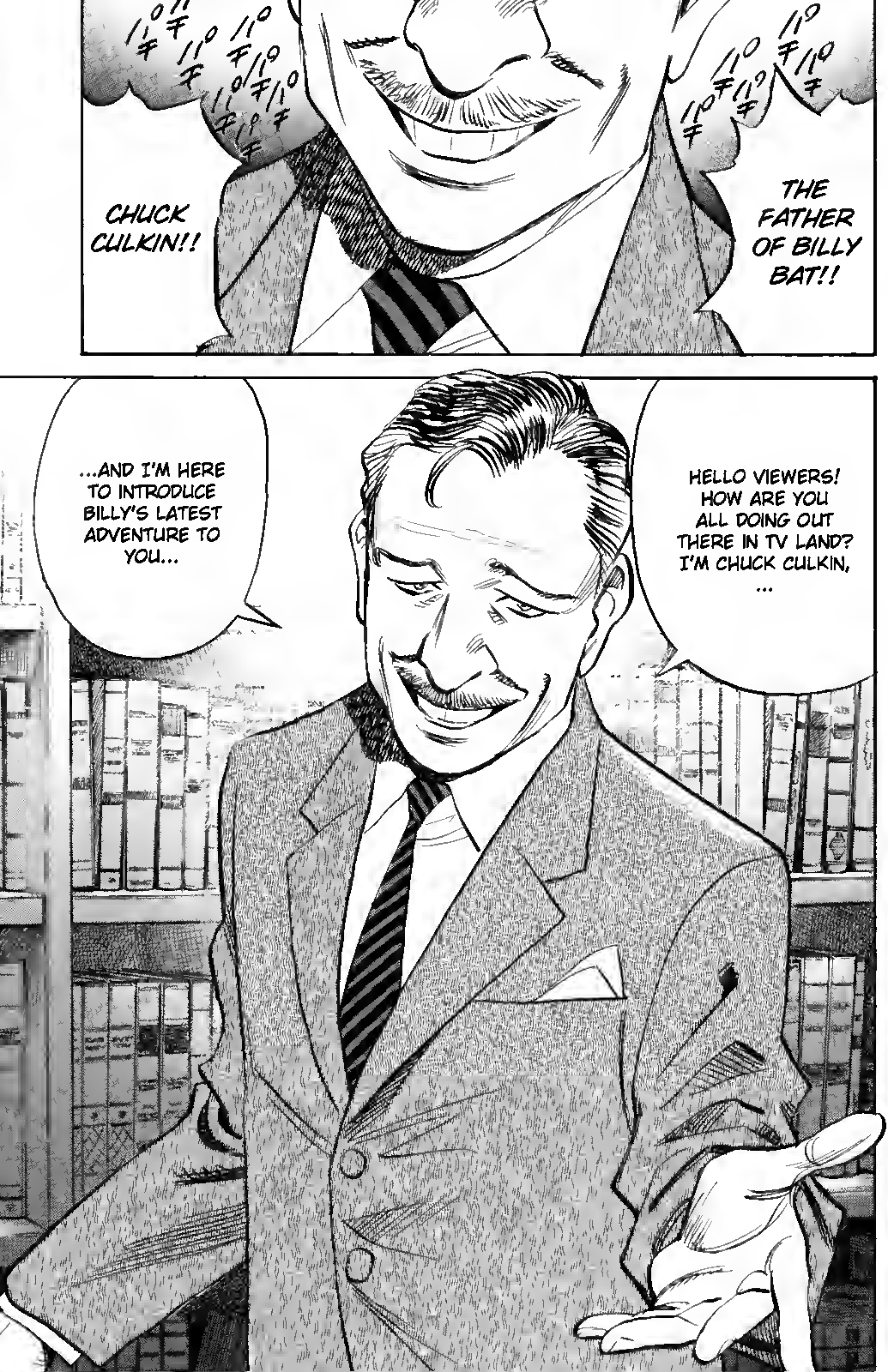
ON AIR!!

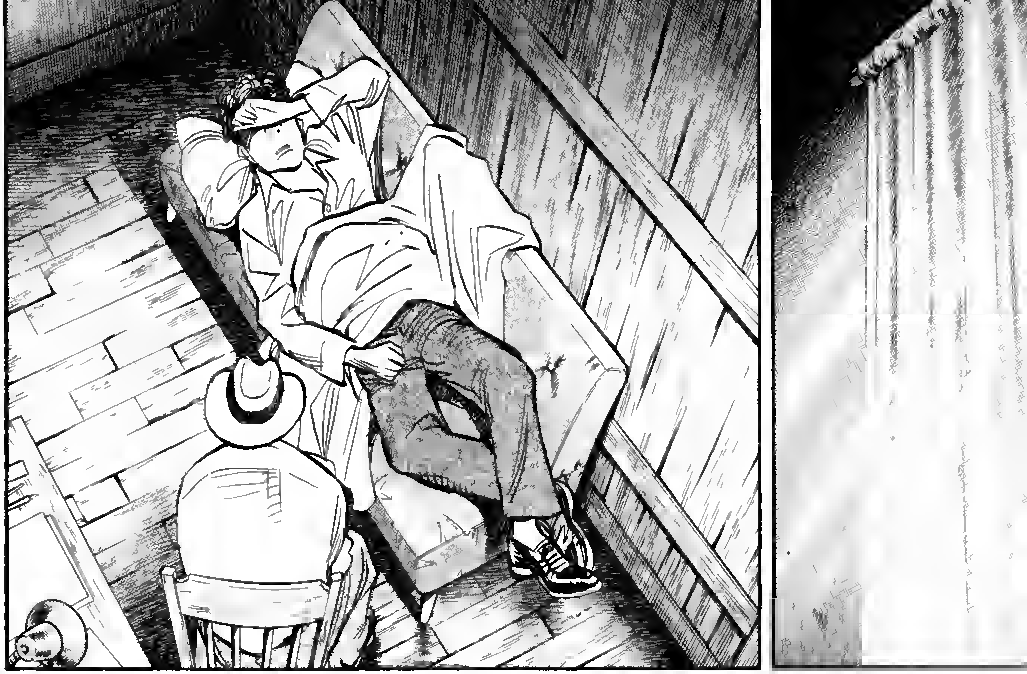
IT'S TIME FOR YOUR WEEKLY DOSE OF DREAMS AND ADVENT-URE!!
SNAP SNAP SNAP


IN THE BILLY BAT HOUR!


AND HERE COMES YOUR HOST, AS ALWAYS ...


HI THERE, BILLY! WHAT FANTASTIC WORLD WILL YOU BE TAKING US TO THIS TIME?!

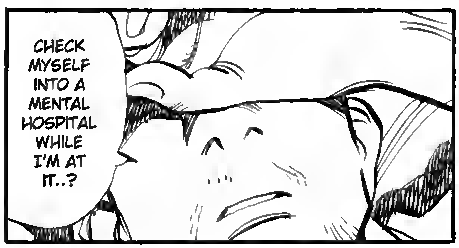

CHUCK CULKIN!!
THE FATHER OF BILLY BAT!!
...AND I'M HERE TO INTRODUCE BILLY'S LATEST ADVENTURE TO YOU...
HELLO VIEWERS! HOW ARE YOU ALL DOING OUT THERE IN TV LAND? I'M CHUCK CULKIN, ...



YEAH.. I'M FINE NOW...

CALMED DOWN A BIT?

WELL, YOU KNOW... TO DETOX, AND...


CHECK MYSELF INTO A MENTAL HOSPITAL WHILE I'M AT IT..?

THE HOSPITAL? FOR WHAT ...
I REALLY THINK YOU SHOULD GO THE HOSPITAL...

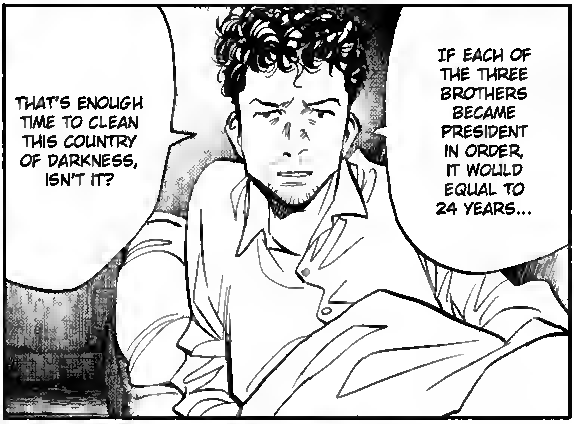
THAT MIGHT HELP
I DON'T THINK SO.
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU?
WHEN I'M SOBER, THE BAT APPEARS.
WHEN I'M IN CONTROL OF MYSELF, HE SHOWS UP.
THE ONLY WAY TO MAKE IT SO THAT I DON'T SEE HIM . .
HOLD ON A MOMENT.
THERE'S A DEPARTMENT WHERE I WORK THAT'S FOCUSED ON STUDYING PEOPLE LIKE YOU.
...IS TO JUST KEEP GOING CRAZY LIKE THIS!!

NO.
THAT STUFF HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.
THERE, THEY CALL PEOPLE LIKE YOU "ESPERS"...
PEOPLE WHO CAN MOVE OBJECTS WITHOUT TOUCHING THEM, CAN SEE THINGS OTHERS CAN'T, OR PREDICT THINGS...
I DON'T HAVE AN ABILITY OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
THE BAT JUST SHOWS UP AND THEN STARTS TELLING ME THINGS.
WHEN DID THIS START, ANYWAY?
IT BEGAN...
WHEN I THOUGHT UP THE CHARACTER BILLY BAT...

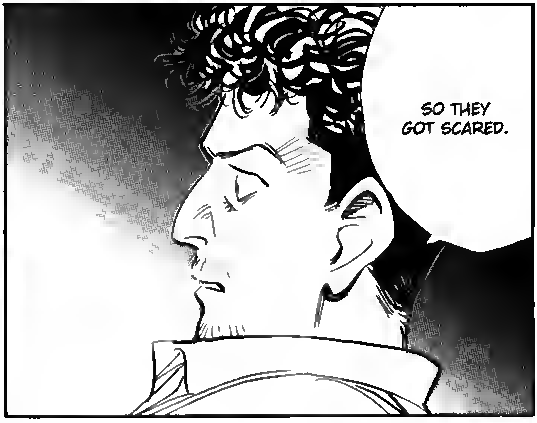
LIKE..?
HE WAS FUN TO DRAW...
AND REALLY EASY TO AS WELL. THE LINES AND DRAMA JUST KEPT COMING AND COMING... IT WAS LIKE..
BUT...
COMIC ARTISTS OFTEN SAY THIS. THAT CHARACTERS WHO ARE EASY TO DRAW...
..ALMOST FEEL LIKE THEY'RE ALIVE, AND ARE MOVING AND SPEAKING ON THEIR OWN ..
AFTER A CERTAIN POINT...
...IT REALLY DID START TALKING ON ITS OWN...
.....
YEAH... ALL OF A SUDDEN, HE APPEARED ...

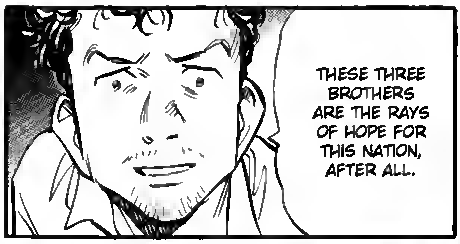
...WHO WOULD WORK TOGETHER WITH HIM TO SWEEP AWAY ALL OF THIS COUNTRY'S DARKNESS...
AND HOW HE HAD TWO SMART BROTHERS BEHIND HIM...

TALKING ABOUT HOW THE SON OF ONE OF THE RICHEST BUSINESSMEN IN THE WORLD WOULD BECOME PRESIDENT IN THE WINK OF AN EYE ...

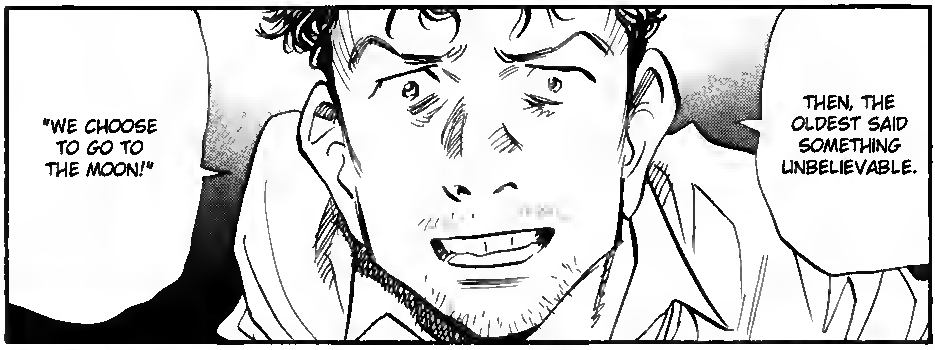

THAT'S ENOUGH TIME TO CLEAN THIS COUNTRY OF DARKNESS, ISN'T IT?
IF EACH OF THE THREE BROTHERS BECAME PRESIDENT IN ORDER, IT WOULD EQUAL TO 24 YEARS...

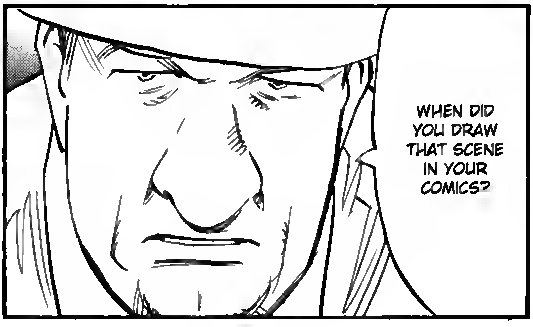
THEY..?


SO THEY GOT SCARED.

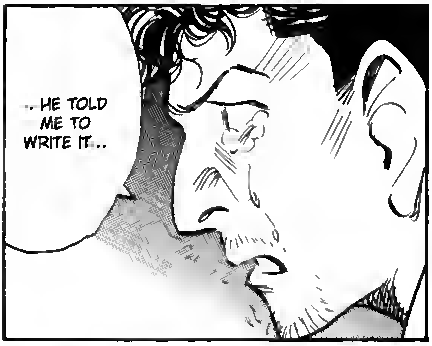

THESE THREE BROTHERS ARE THE RAYS OF HOPE FOR THIS NATION, AFTER ALL.

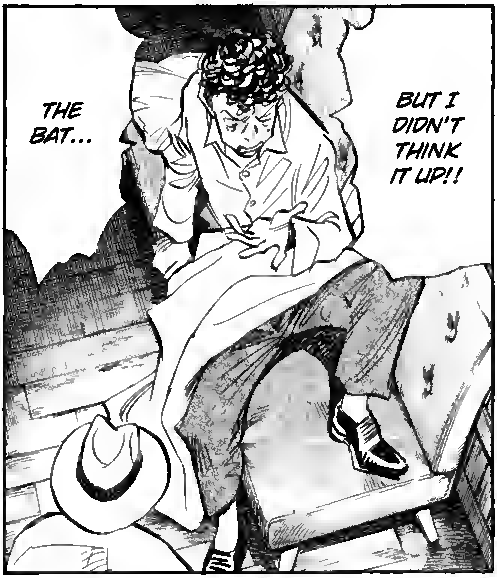
THEM. THE ONES WHO NEED DARKNESS IN THIS WORLD.

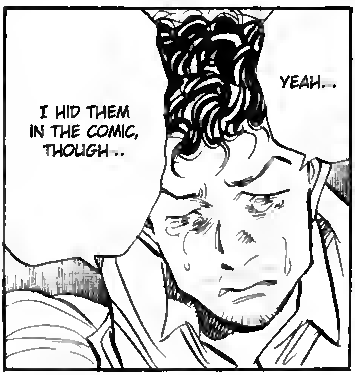

"WE CHOOSE TO GO TO THE MOON!"
THEN, THE OLDEST SAID SOMETHING UNBELIEVABLE.


WHEN DID YOU DRAW THAT SCENE IN YOUR COMICS?

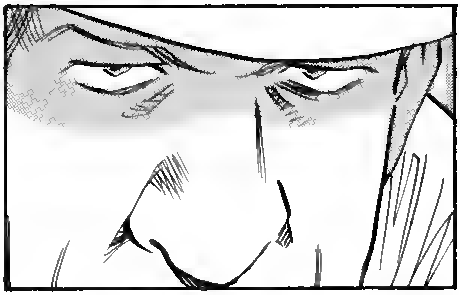
OVER TEN YEARS AGO ...

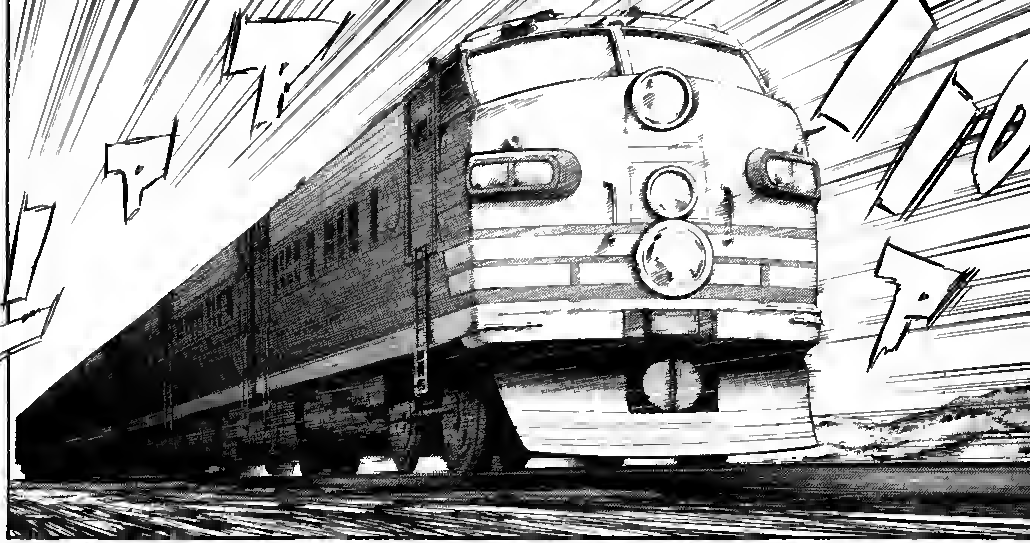

.. HE TOLD ME TO WRITE IT..


THE BAT...
BUT I DIDN'T THINK IT UP!!

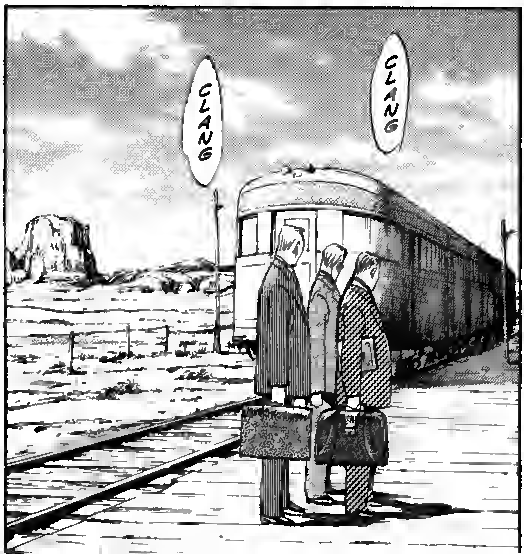

YEAH..
I HID THEM IN THE COMIC, THOUGH ..

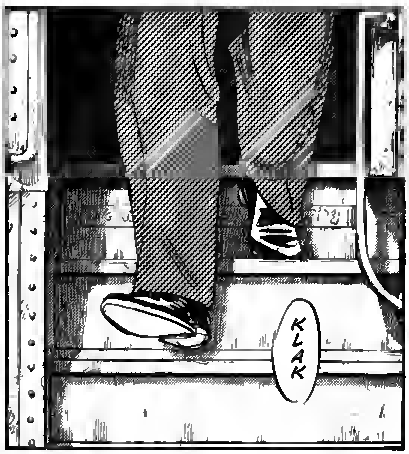
AND YOU'VE KNOWN THE NAMES OF THOSE THREE BROTHERS FOR ALL THIS TIME?

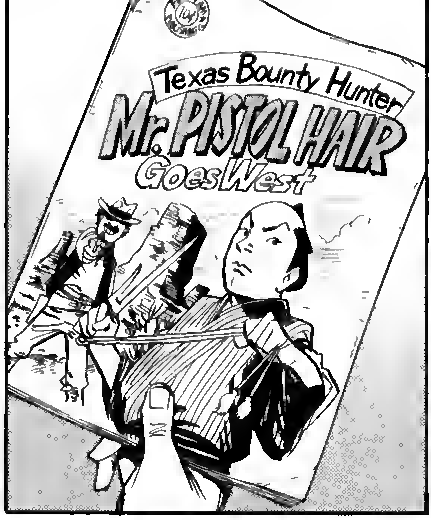
KENNEDY...


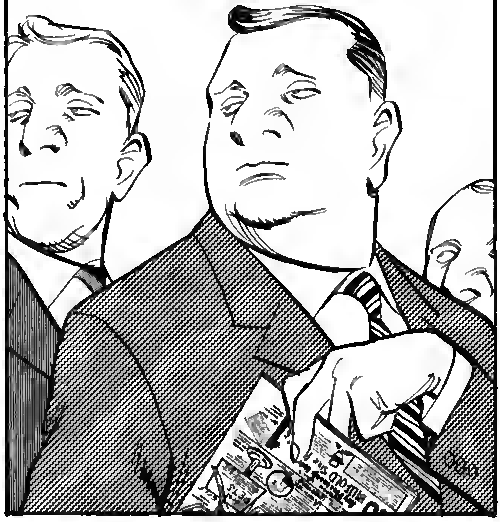


CLANG
PSSSSSSH
CLANG

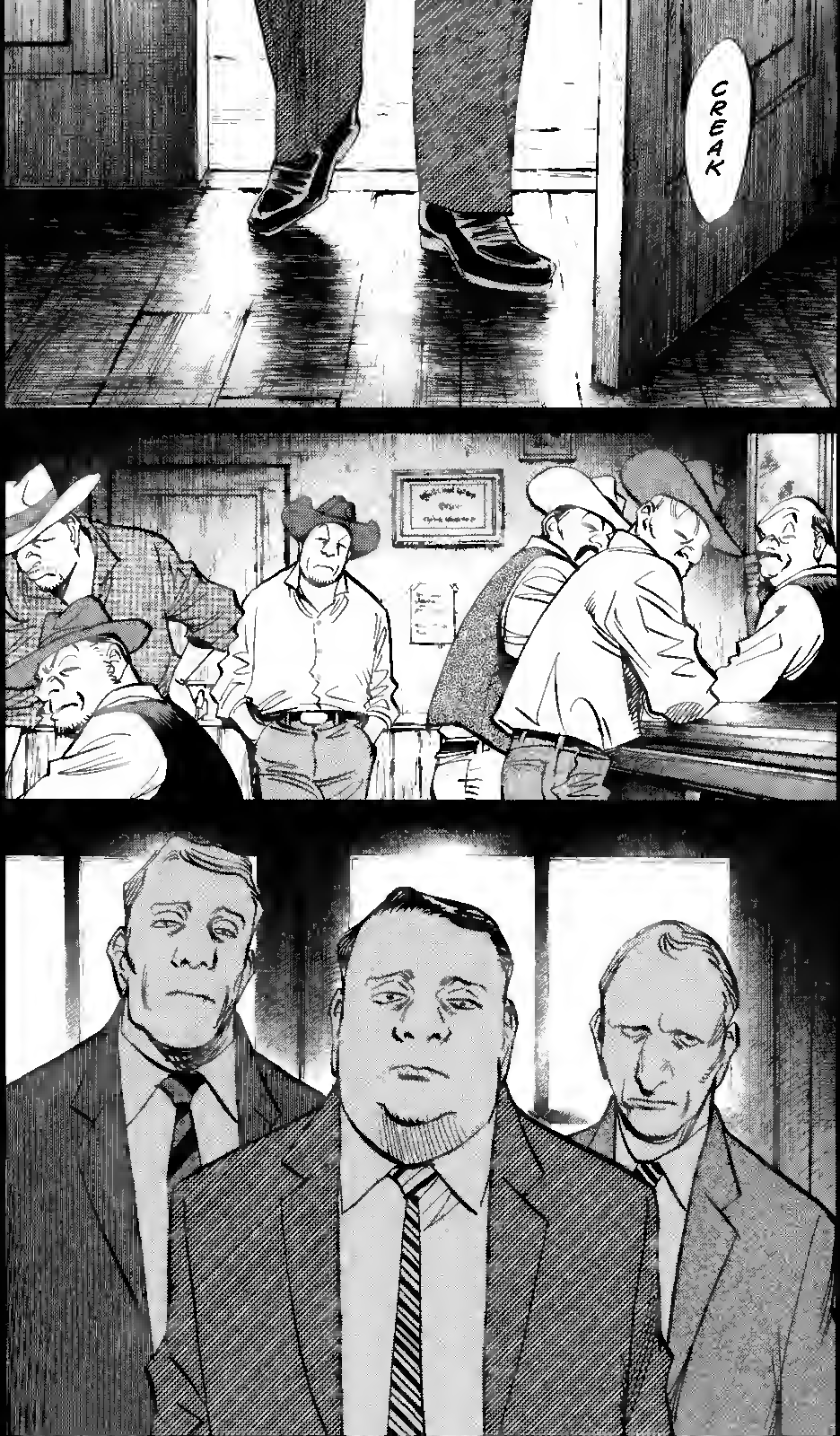

CLANG
CLANG


KLAK


Texas Bounty Hunter
Mr. PISTOL HAIR
Goes West



SLIP
NO COST
Bounty Hunter
LOOKS JUST LIKE THE SET OF A WESTERN.


CREAK

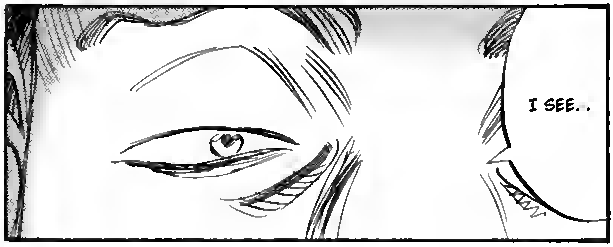
THERE SHOULD BE A JAPANESE COMICS ARTIST LIVING IN THIS TOWN. .

OH YEAH? I AIN'T NEVER SEEN NO JAPS 'ROUND HERE.

DAMN STRAIGHT! GUAHAHAH !!
I WOULDN'T STAY HERE TOO LONG, IF I WERE YOU...

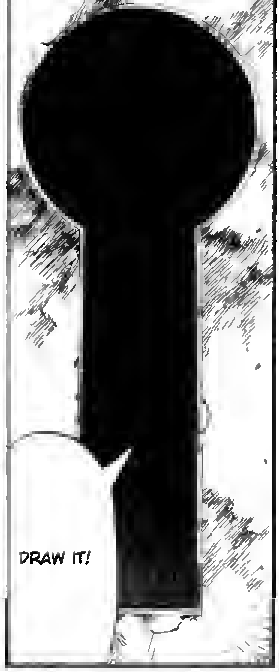
IS THAT HOTEL OVER THERE THE ONLY ONE YOU HAVE HERE?

YUP
SHOULD BE ALMOST FULL, THOUGH.


I SEE..

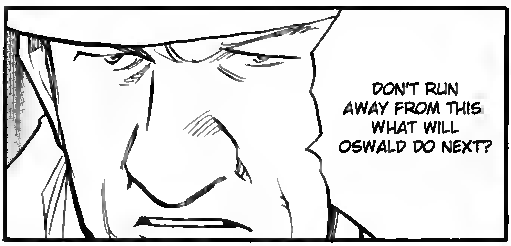
CHAPTER 37 THE DECISION AT 20:10

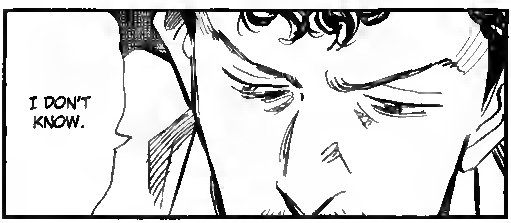
DRAW THE CONTINUATION.


DRAW IT!

I KNOW YOU CAN DO IT.

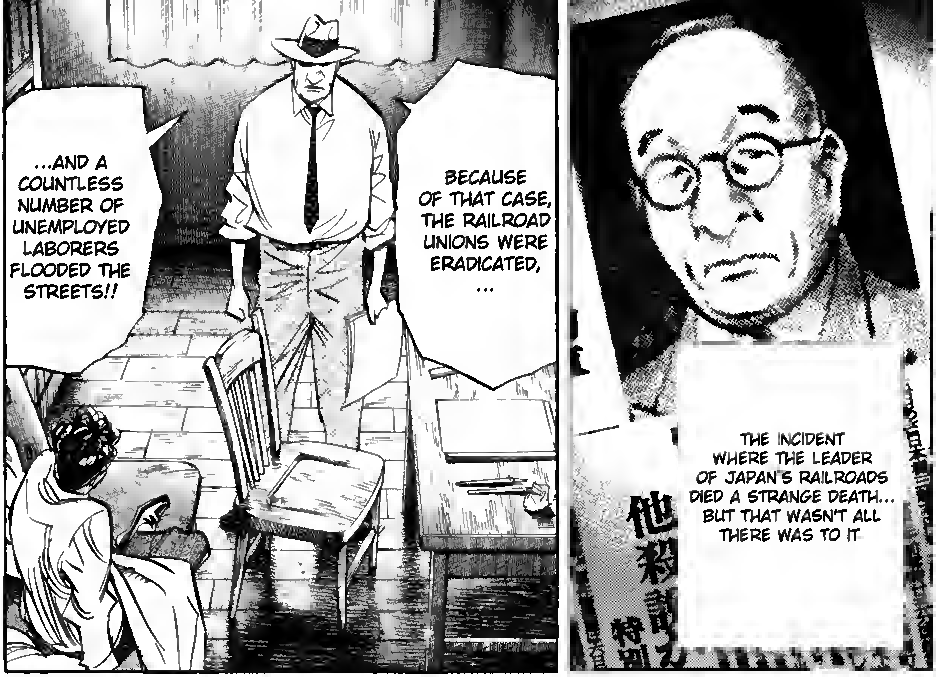
NO...

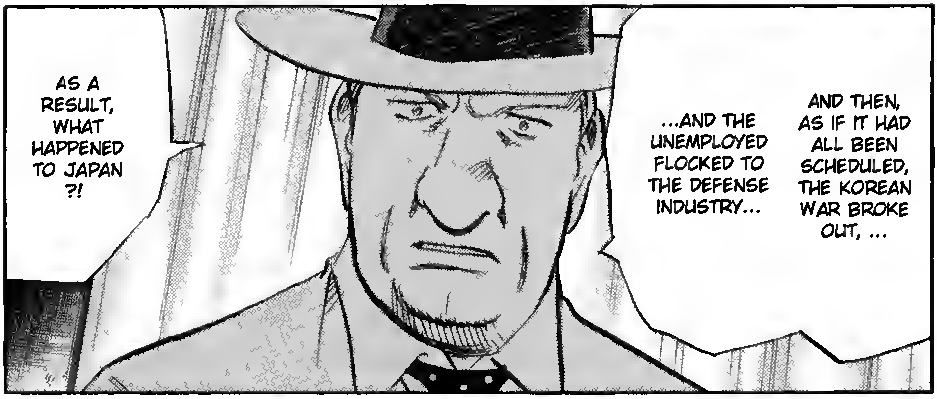

DON'T RUN AWAY FROM THIS WHAT WILL OSWALD DO NEXT?


I DON'T KNOW.

AND I'M SAYING NO!

BESIDES, NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I DRAW OSWALD, I CAN'T GET HIS CHARACTER DOWN!!
HOW COULD I DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT?!
YOU'VE ALREADY SEEN IN YOUR HEAD WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO OSWALD, RIGHT?!
LEAVE ME ALONE!!
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU AREN'T FACING THE BAT PROPERLY!!
YES I DO
.....
THIS WILL TURN OUT JUST LIKE THE SHIMOYAMA CASE.


BECAUSE OF THAT CASE, THE RAILROAD UNIONS WERE ERADICATED, ...
...AND A COUNTLESS NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED LABORERS FLOODED THE STREETS!!
THE INCIDENT WHERE THE LEADER OF JAPAN'S RAILROADS DIED A STRANGE DEATH... BUT THAT WASN'T ALL THERE WAS TO IT

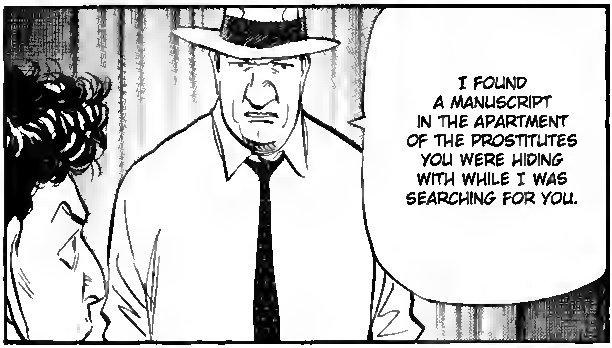

AND THEN, AS IF IT HAD ALL BEEN SCHEDULED, THE KOREAN WAR BROKE OUT, ...
...AND THE UNEMPLOYED FLOCKED TO THE DEFENSE INDUSTRY...
AS A RESULT, WHAT HAPPENED TO JAPAN ?!

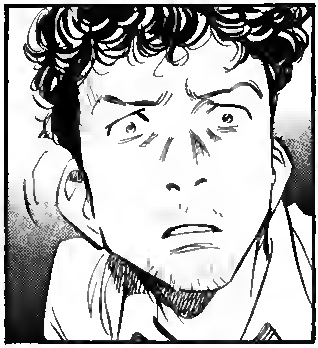
IT BECAME UTTERLY DEPENDENT ON AMERICA.

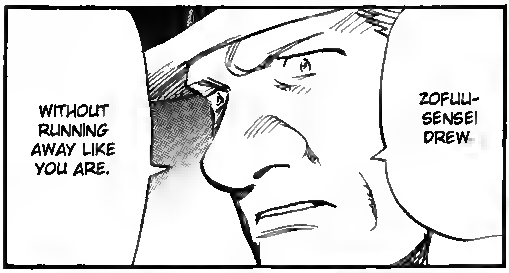
THAT WAS ZOFUU-SENSEI'S ...

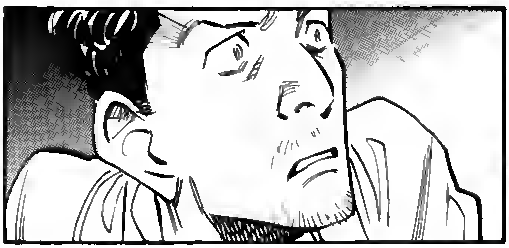
THAT..!!
THAT WASN'T MY FAULT...

YES...
I READ THAT COMIC WHEN I WAS IN JAPAN.


I FOUND A MANUSCRIPT IN THE APARTMENT OF THE PROSTITUTES YOU WERE HIDING WITH WHILE I WAS SEARCHING FOR YOU.




ZOFUU-SENSEI DREW
WITHOUT RUNNING AWAY LIKE YOU ARE.



何か嫌いだなァ
UNFORTUNATELY, THAT MANUSCRIPT NEVER SAW THE LIGHT OF DAY...

NOW GET TO YOUR DESK AND DRAW!!
N...NO!!
I CAN'T DO IT! I CAN'T BECOME STRONG LIKE ZOFULL-SENSEI!

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU, ANYWAY ?!
IT'LL BE TOO LATE ONCE A HISTORY-CHANGING EVENT LIKE THE SHIMOYAMA CASE STARTS !!

AT LEAST TELL ME YOUR REAL NAME, DAMMIT!!
AND THAT 'SMITH' NAME YOU GAVE ME IS MOST LIKELY A FAKE!!
I HAVEN'T EVEN THE SLIGHTEST CLUE WHO OR WHAT YOU WORK FOR!!

THE WOMAN I FELL IN LOVE WITH IN JAPAN...
...DIED BECAUSE OF ME!!
YOU DON'T BELIEVE ANYONE.
OF COURSE NOT!!
BUT I BELIEVED YOU.
OF COURSE I DON'T BELIEVE ANYONE!!
THAT A BAT APPEARED AND TOLD YOU THE FUTURE... AN UTTERLY ABSURD STORY !!
.....
I BELIEVED THAT RIDICULOUS STORY OF YOURS.

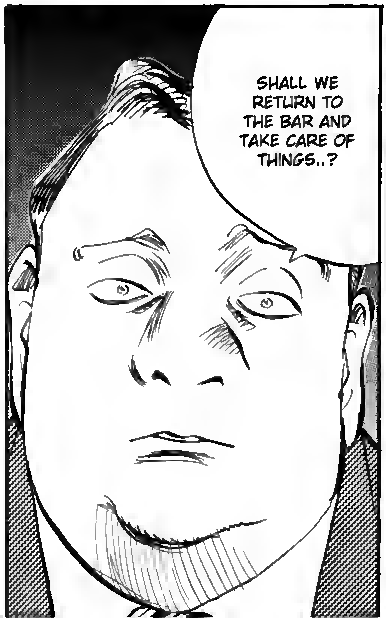
YOU THINK YOU CAN GO ON LIVING THE REST OF YOUR LIFE WITHOUT BELIEVING ANYONE?
OR CAN YOU BELIEVE ME NOW?
DECIDE.
THE PRESIDENT MIGHT DIE!!

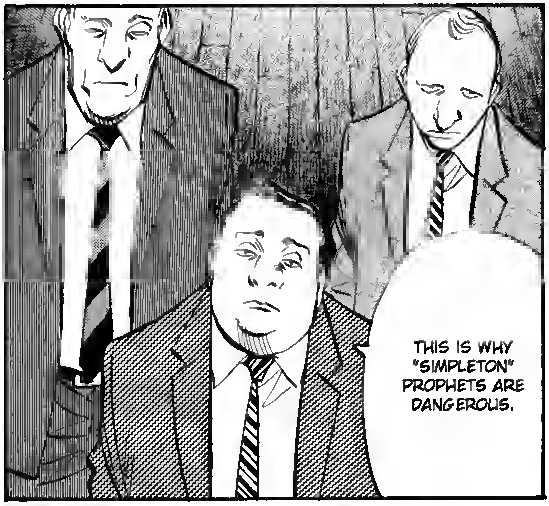
BAM
?
LOOK, THERE IT IS..
YOU CAN SEE IT, CAN'T YOU?

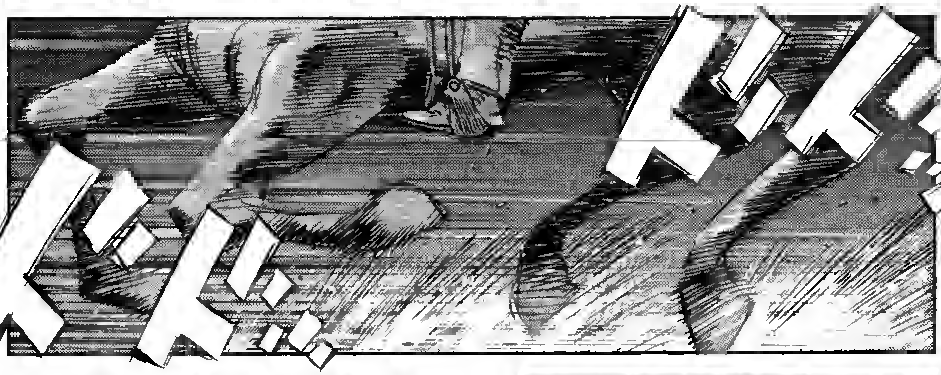
SEE WHAT..?
HIM.
AHH...
YEAH...
AHH...
.....
KNOCK KNOCK
AHH..
.....

SOME WEIRDOS CAME
WELL, WELL...
ASSASSIN
Shimokama

Shimokawa
ASSASSIN

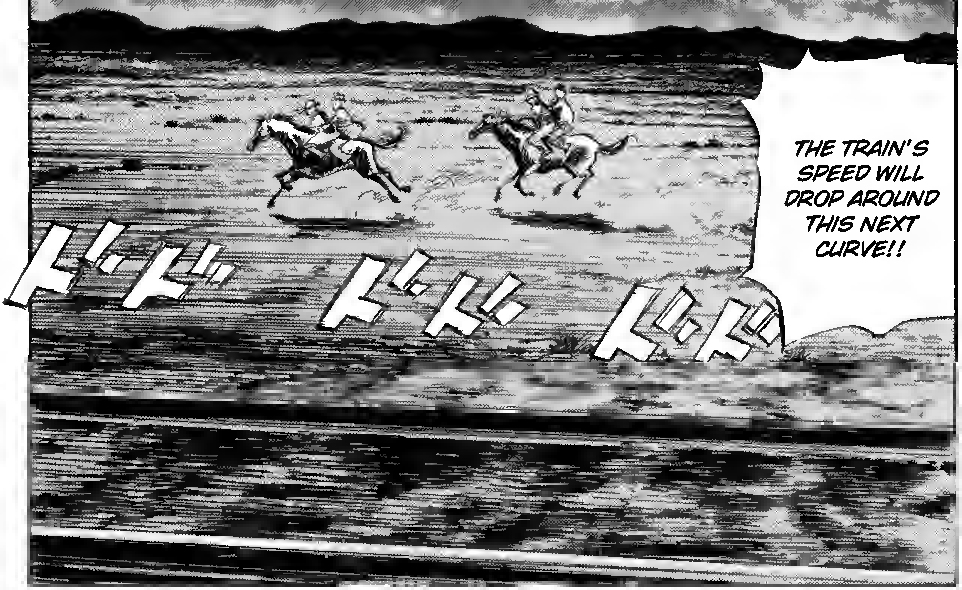

SHALL WE RETURN TO THE BAR AND TAKE CARE OF THINGS..?


THIS IS WHY "SIMPLETON" PROPHETS ARE DANGEROUS.


ドドドド…

WHERE'S THE TRAIN?!
ドドドド…
IT SHOULD PASS THROUGH THE STATION AT 20:10! IN A LITTLE BIT!!

HOLD ON TIGHT?!
ドドドド…


THE TRAIN'S SPEED WILL DROP AROUND THIS NEXT CURVE!!
ドドド ドドド ドドド

AHHH!!

THEY HAVEN'T NOTICED YET!!
AND OUR PURSUERS ?!

HERE IT COMES!!

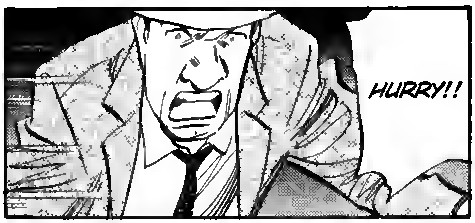
THE TRAIN!!

LET'S GO! DON'T BE SCARED!!
CLAANG
CLAANG
CLAANG

A!

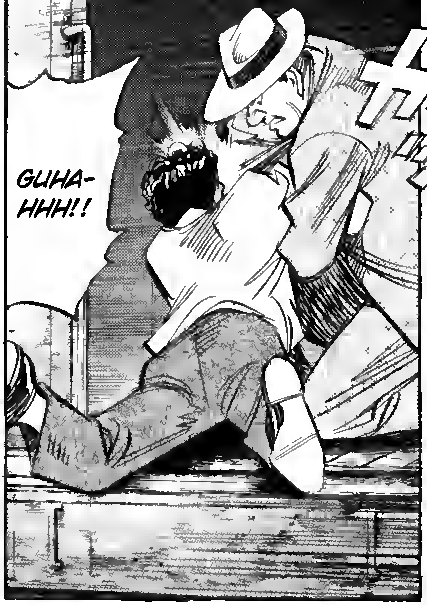
KUH!!

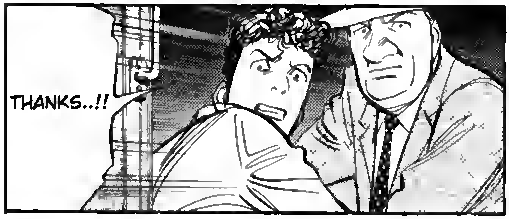
HIIEEE!!


HURRY!!

GO!!
HIE...

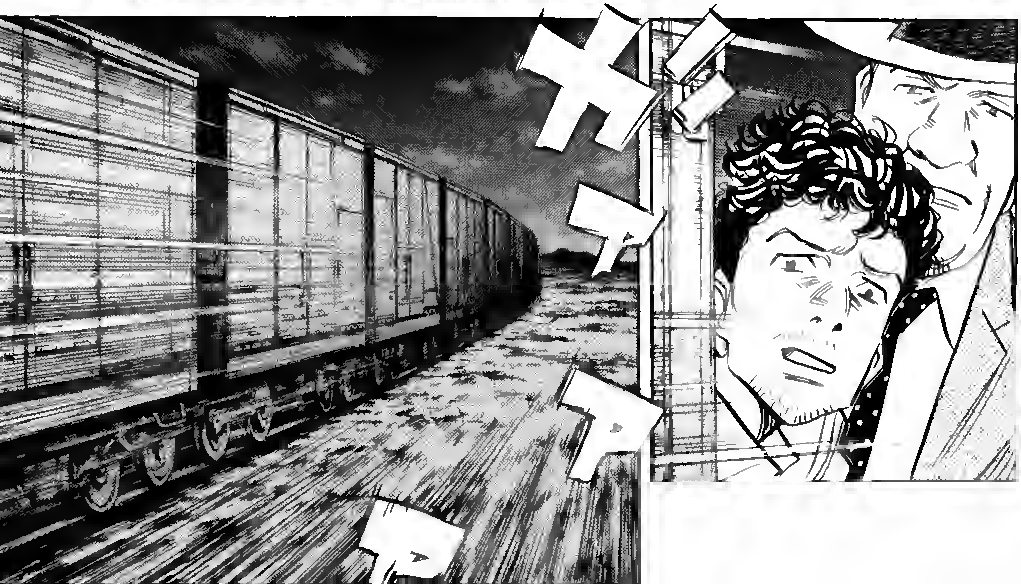
NICE ON, SENSEI!!


GUHA-HHH!!

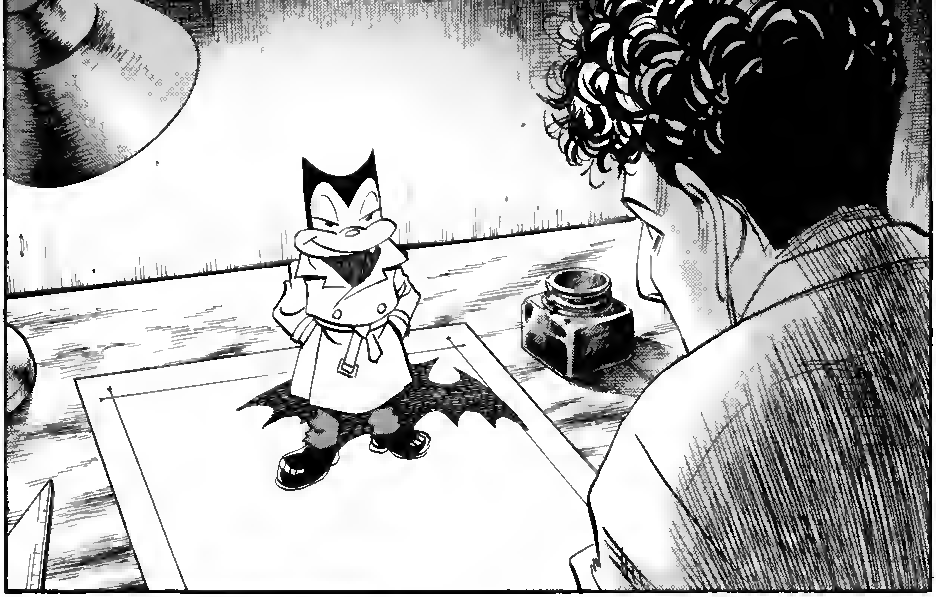

THANKS..!!

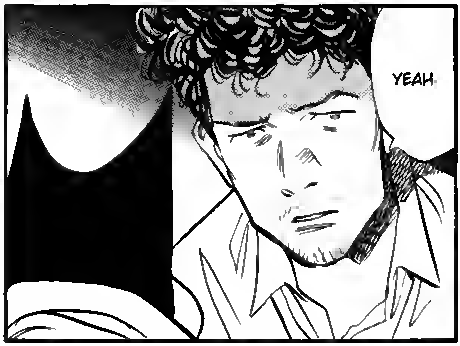
IN EXCHANGE, WE'LL BE AWAITING YOUR NEXT EXCITING COMIC!!

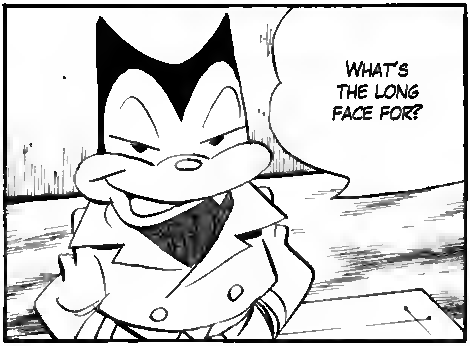
THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT !!



CLA-CLACK
CLA-CLACK
CLA-CLACK
CLA-CLACK
CLA-CLACK
WHAT DID YOU TALK ABOUT EARLIER..?
CLA-CLACK
WHAT DID YOU TALK ABOUT AT YOUR DESK?
AHH...
EH?
THAT'S HOW HE ALWAYS APPEARS..
CLA-CLACK
CLA-CLACK
YOU COULD SEE HIM, RIGHT?

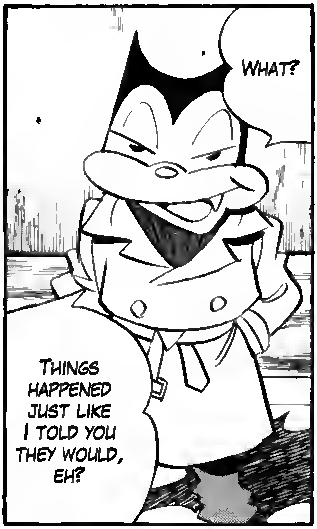



YEAH.


WHAT'S THE LONG FACE FOR?

NOW DRAW.

YEAH. .


WHAT?
THINGS HAPPENED JUST LIKE I TOLD YOU THEY WOULD, EH?

...THEN YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO CHANGE HISTORY.
IF YOU DRAW NOW...

CLA-CLACK
CLA-CLACK

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モーニングKC1922

BILLY BAT ④

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